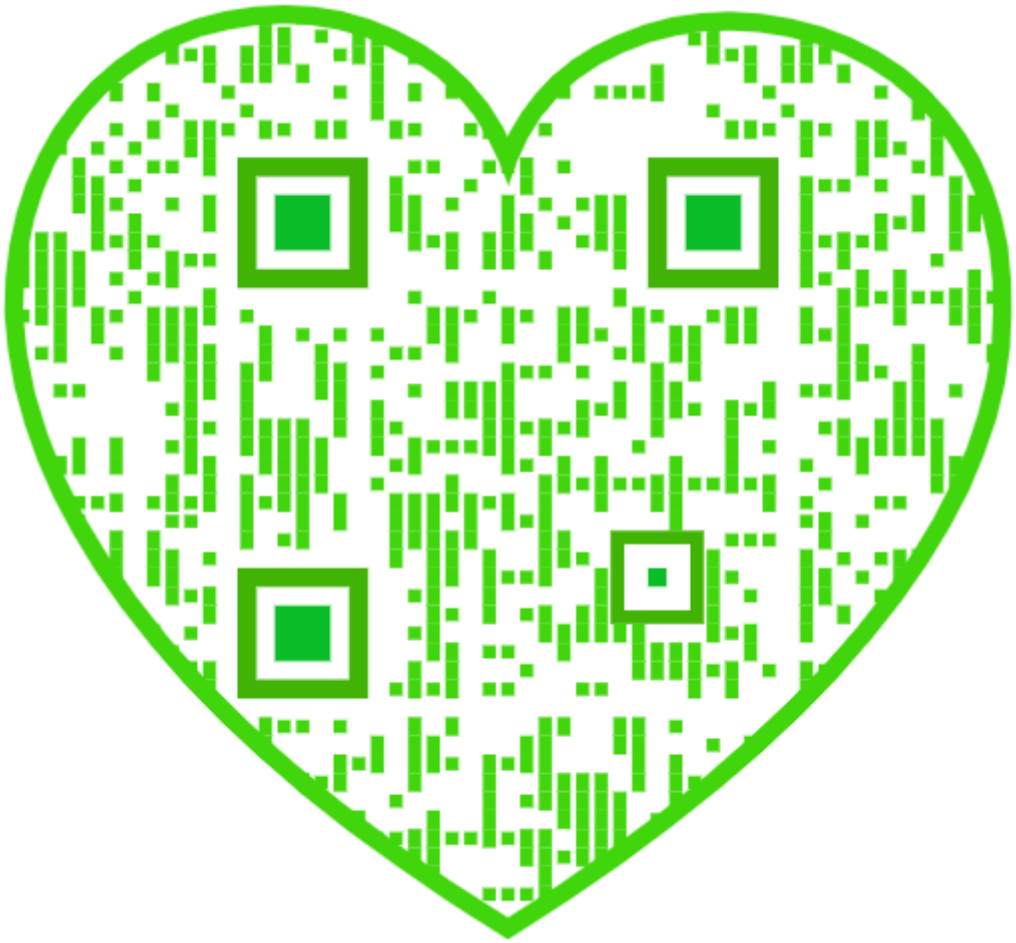

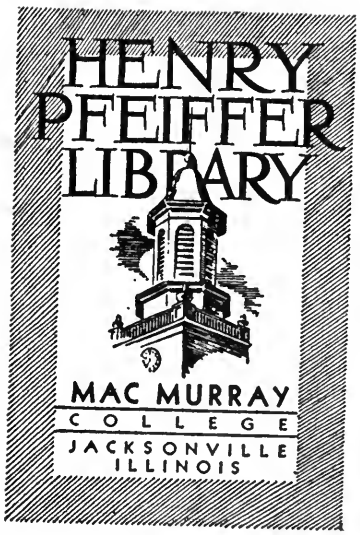
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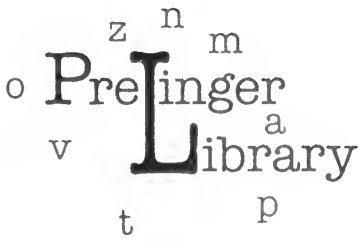

San Francisco, California
2007

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A Dream

R10320
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FROM THE MOUNTAINS come visions and sermons and commandments in all centuries and in all countries.

Down from the mountains came a group of wise men—wise men from many lands and many ages.

And I heard them as they came singing.

And what of wisdom do you bring me

From the ages since the world began?

I asked them and they answered me in song and this is what they answered as I caught some of the words.

. . . . . .

Know ye that there is one God and He is a God of Life and Light.

Let first things be first.

First—live—thou and thy children forever and forever, thou and all that are within thy gates. The world belongeth unto God and unto His children forever and forever.

Live each day and accept no plan for the days that leave no time nor place nor way for living.

Cherish all that buildeth man, forever and forever.

Know ye that our God is a God of music, of drama, of the arts, of sports, of nature.

Know ye that all that buildeth men belongs to God and to thee—forever and forever.

Forget not the dignity and the worth of the individual as a child of God of whom thou art one.

Ever and always—whatever the cost keep thyself free—free from every form of slavery.

Remember this God's world may be kept friendly.

Remember again and yet again the world in which thou livest belongeth unto God and unto thee.

Keep thou thy world as a place to be lived in, thou and thy children and thy children's children—forever and forever.

Let beauty and truth and honor be first.

Let neither gold nor silver nor brass nor stocks nor bonds nor lands nor factories be placed first before thy God and the needs of His people.

If thou wilt place God and His people and the needs of the life of man first, then know ye that all other things needful shall be added unto thee forever and forever.

41691

MacMurray College
Jacksonville, Illinois

Give honor to thy father and thy mother and thy home.

Build strong thine own home as a fortress of thy God.

Men and women—be not afraid—let not sex have domination over thee in a world full of beauty and comradeship and so much that belongs to God and man.

. . . . . .

Hate not—except the hate that is within thine own heart.

Kill no man's spirit, thine own, nor thy neighbor's.

Care for thy neighbor's welfare as for thine own.

Desire intelligence, wisdom, freedom from fear and want, and life itself for thy neighbor as for thyself.

Desire naught for thyself that thy neighbor with equal gifts may not secure for himself.

Keep not from thy neighbor aught of beauty that has value for thee.

"Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God and thy neighbor."

Be not a slave to the science and the knowledge thou hast thyself created.

Bow not down to the tools and the machines thou hast made. Neither shalt thou worship them.

Let science and knowledge, let tools and machines serve God and man.

. . . . . .

Bow not down to the institutions thou hast created nor worship them. Let thine institutions serve thee.

On the seventh day and on many special days sing and rejoice and let thy labor be such as buildeth thy soul and maketh thee to be glad thou art alive.

Rejoice that thou mayest work to build a world in which thou and thy neighbor, thy children and his children may be equally secure forever and forever.

Rejoice and yet again rejoice that thou art a child of God and all men may become thy brothers—forever and forever.

. . . . . .

The Dream passed—the words died slowly away—yet the triumphant note of the song—rejoice and yet again rejoice—forever and forever remained. Some of the singers seemed to me to have come from Egypt, from China, from Babylonia and Assyria, from India, from Greece, from Rome, from the North Lands, and from the South Lands, from many holy lands of many people. But always the people who sang—in the dream—were coming down from the mountains and a special light was on their faces. I believed that some of them were thinking of Mount Olympus, some of Mecca, some of Jerusalem, but all were turned toward the future.

Howard Brancher

A Traveling Zoo for Cleveland Playgrounds

They thought Ringling Brothers had come back to town when Cleveland's Traveling Zoo, with its gay circus wagon decorations and loudspeaker broadcasting band music, made its first trip last summer!

By JULIUS KEMENY
Commissioner, Division of Recreation
Cleveland, Ohio

LAST SUMMER upward of 250,000 Greater Cleveland children saw and petted animals from the Cleveland Zoo in their own playground. It was the first time the Zoo had been brought to them, and it proved to be such a huge success that everyone concerned is determined it shall be an annual summer event.

Not a single accident marred the summer's record. The animals not only survived but actually improved in health during these tours. The arrival of the traveling zoo was an event of importance in every neighborhood it visited. The Cleveland Zoo credits the traveling unit with stimulating interest among children and adults to such an extent that it reflected a marked increase in attendance at the Zoo itself.

The traveling unit, mounted on a trailer chassis and pulled by a truck, made 172 trips between June 23rd and September 6th. Every Recreation Department playground and most of the Board of Education playgrounds in Cleveland proper were visited during the season. In addition, the Zoo visited at least one playground in each of the suburbs that go to make up Greater Cleveland, as well as going to orphanages and other children's institutions. At Lakewood Park, Lakewood, Ohio, it played to the largest crowd of children during the season — an estimated 6,000. Sometimes it would take the children at a given playground as long as an hour and a half to file past the trailer. Afterward they were allowed to pet the rabbits, guinea pigs, and other small animals.

It Began at the Child Checking Playground

This is how it all came about: Early in the spring the City Division of Recreation installed a child checking playground in Public Square as an exhibit for Youth Victory Week. The idea occurred to me of having an exhibit of small animals there. Consequently I went to Fletcher Reynolds,

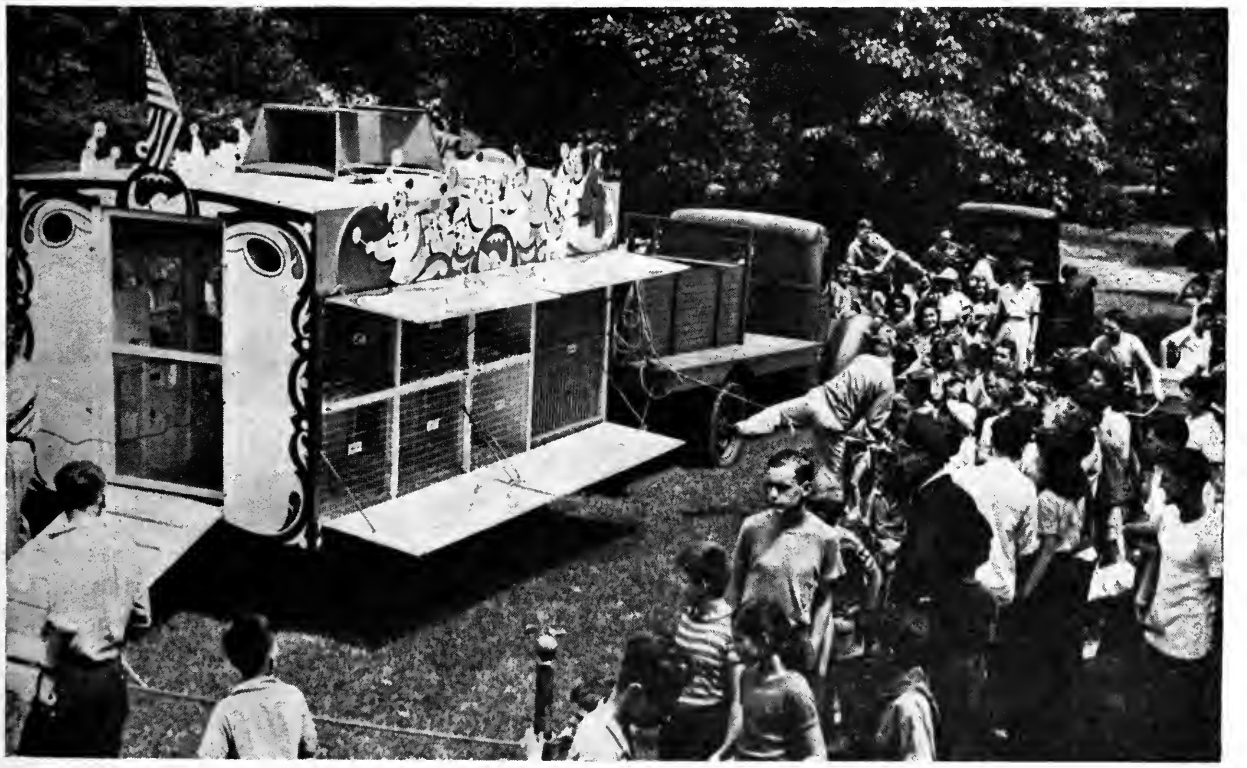


Photo by Oscar P. Harke

Zoo Director, who was glad to cooperate. The exhibit attracted so much attention from children and adults alike that it set us thinking.

How could we take some of the Zoo animals around to the playgrounds during the summer? Mr. Reynolds and I got our heads together and came up with the only possible answer—a trailer. How to get the trailer? How to get the various organizations who might be interested to cooperate?

The Cleveland Division of Recreation will be glad to furnish plans of the trailer and give additional information regarding the project to any interested group desiring it. Requests should be addressed to Julius Kemeny, Commissioner, Division of Recreation, 6 City Hall, Cleveland, Ohio.

After receiving the wholehearted approval of Arthur L. Munson, Director of the Department of Public Properties, in whose department we function, we went with our idea to Harold T. Clark, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Natural History and the Board of Control of the Cleveland Zoo, who embraced it enthusiastically; then to the *Cleveland Press* and its editor, Louis B. Seltzer, who showed equal enthusiasm.

With this backing we approached Leyton E. Carter, Director of the Cleveland Foundation, and had no trouble getting $300 for our venture. A visit to the executives of the Thompson Products, Incorporated got us an additional $500. Now we were in funds!

The *Cleveland Press* announced the venture in a story, and assigned Joe Collier, a feature writer, to work closely with Mr. Reynolds and me in getting the project into shape. We bought a trailer for $300. Two cabinet makers from the Recreation Division were assigned to build the superstructure which is 15 feet long, 8½ feet wide, and approximately 10½ feet high. It contains fourteen cages, two of which are large enough to accommodate young lions or animals of comparable size.

James Herron, *Press* artist, assigned to draw a design for the superstructure decoration, chose to make it resemble a circus band wagon. A decorator was hired to carry this out in plywood.

We Conduct a "Treasure Hunt"

In our quest for paint and plywood Mr. Reynolds and I visited the Davis Plywood Corporation. We intended to purchase the materials, but Mr. Davis pointed out that plywood was rationed. However, when he learned what our project was, he remarked, "We can't sell it but no one can stop me from giving it away." The Glidden Paint Company officials lost no time, when we explained the project, in giving us the paint. We bought the heavy wire needed, and some hardware. Between us we furnished the flooring, wood, and other materials needed.

Very soon the trailer was built and almost ready to travel, but we still needed a public address system. Hoping to have one donated, *The Cleveland Press* ran a story of the need. It brought no donation but it uncovered a nice bargain in a second hand system for $40. Mayor Frank Lausche, intensely interested in the project, cut red tape to make a city truck available.

The Zoo Is Dedicated and Goes on Its Way

On June 23rd, Mayor Lausche with Harold T. Clark, Leyton E. Carter, officials of the donor companies, and the sponsors (*The Cleveland Press,* Recreation Division of the City of Cleveland, and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, parent organization of the Cleveland Zoo), dedicated the trailer in ceremonies at high noon on the Public Square. After the ceremony it set out on its rounds.

Photo by Oscar P. Harke

The crew consisted of a driver furnished by the city and two trained lecturers, one paid jointly by the Division of Recreation and the Cleveland

Photo by Oscar P. Harke

To the children's great delight they were permitted to pet some of the smaller animals, all of which miraculously survived!

Zoo, the other paid by the Friends of the Cleveland Zoo, a fund-raising organization. The trailer stopped an average of one hour and fifteen minutes at each park, starting about noon and making an average of four stops daily.

After the project got under way it was virtually no work at all for our Department. Mr. Reynolds has estimated that three hours a day loading, unloading, and cleaning the cages covered the Zoo's extra work.

In the cages were two monkeys, a baby fox, a mother opossum with young, guinea pigs, an owl, an armadillo, a few rabbits, three kittens which, by the way, received a lion's share of attention, a bantam rooster, and other animals. Some of them were changed from time to time, but many of them went through the entire season.

A complete new generation of guinea pigs was born on the trailer. One day when the men opened the cages at the playground the children called attention to baby guinea pigs. They had been born between stops.

The lecturers were Ed Rector and Samuel E. Davies, school teachers, and both interested in wildlife. They took turns telling the children about the animals. When the lectures were over, circus music was played over the public address system.

The Police Departments of Cleveland and the suburbs assigned squad cars to the Zoo. When it entered a district, the squad car for that district picked it up and stayed with it until it left the district.

The Division of Recreation mimeographed a week's itinerary in advance, copies of which were sent to the Welfare Federation, the suburbs involved, the Police Department, the daily and neighborhood newspapers, and to all city councilmen. *The Cleveland Press* carried the next day's itinerary every day, and the following week's itinerary each Saturday. In addition it ran several feature stories during the summer and printed many pictures of playground crowds.

The traveling zoo showed up on schedule at

every playground, rain or shine. Often children stayed through showers, so fascinated were they with the animals.

Plans for 1944

Supervisors planned handcraft programs around the Zoo. This feature will be extended next summer, with possibly a public exhibition of the results at the end of the season.

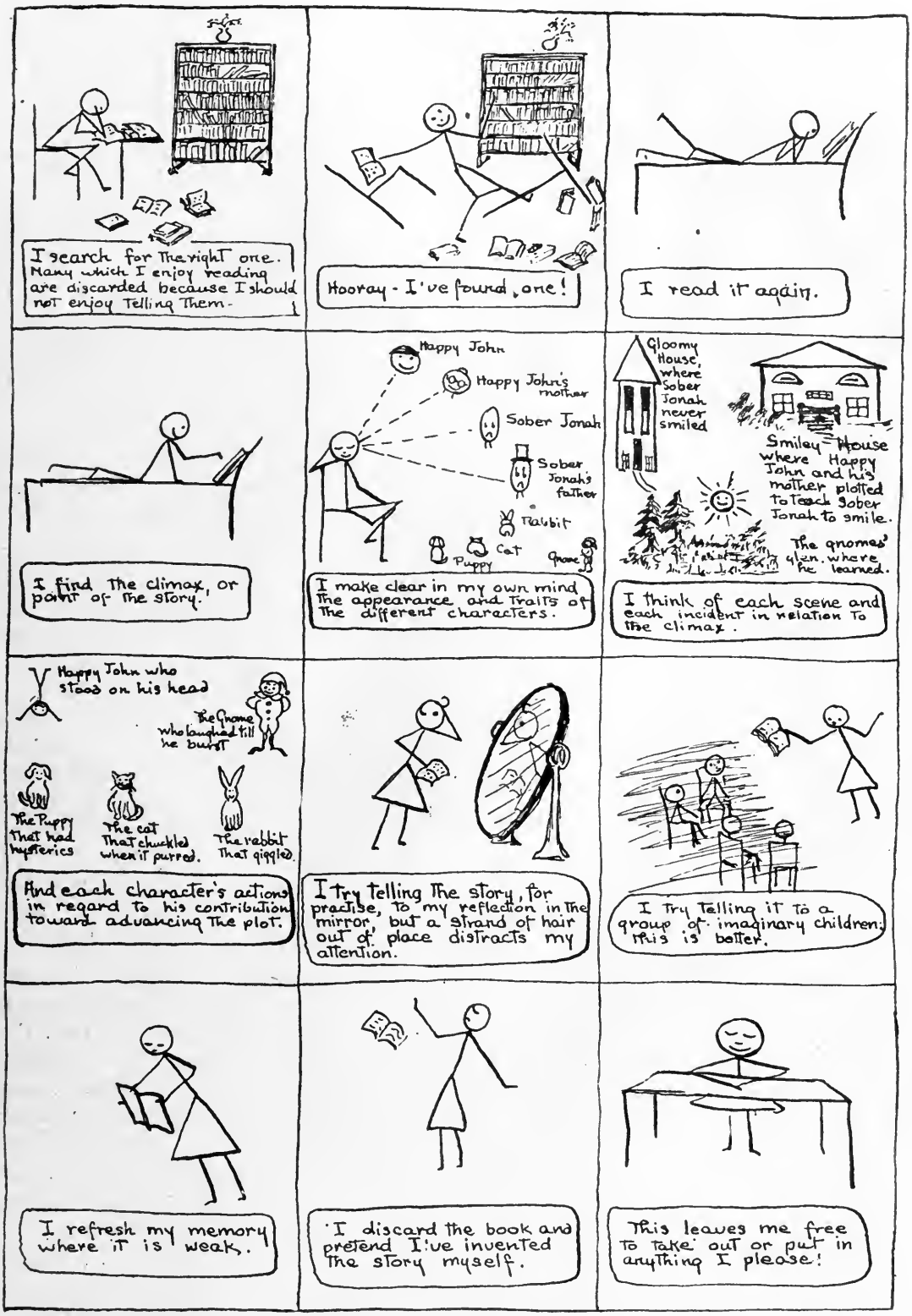
This year the sponsoring agencies between them intend to publish a brochure containing pictures and short descriptions of animals, one of which will be given each child visiting the exhibit. It is also planned to take a pony along next summer for some of the smaller children to ride.

Two days a week this year, as last, the exhibit will remain at the Zoo and the lecturers will conduct tours of the entire Zoo. There will also be a showing of animal motion pictures in the Zoo Auditorium at stated intervals.

Photo by Oscar P. Har

How I Get Ready to Tell a Story

By JEANETTE E. PERKINS


I search for the right one. Many which I enjoy reading are discarded because I should not enjoy telling them.
Hooray - I've found one!
I read it again.
I find the climax, or point of the story.
Happy John
Happy John's mother
Sober Jonah
Sober Jonah's father
Rabbit
Cat
Puppy
Gnome
I make clear in my own mind the appearance and traits of the different characters.
Gloomy House, where Sober Jonah never smiled
Smiley House where Happy John and his mother plotted to teach Sober Jonah to smile.
The gnomes' glen where he learned.
I think of each scene and each incident in relation to the climax.
Happy John who stood on his head
The Gnome who laughed till he burst
The Puppy that had hysterics
The cat that chuckled when it purred.
The rabbit that giggled.
And each character's actions in regard to his contribution toward advancing the plot.
I try telling the story, for practise, to my reflection in the mirror, but a strand of hair out of place distracts my attention.
I try telling it to a group of imaginary children; this is better.
I refresh my memory where it is weak.
I discard the book and pretend I've invented the story myself.
This leaves me free to take out or put in anything I please!

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Now That School's Ou

Gedge Harmon

Each Spring, before the playground season opens, we tell you of some of the happenings on last summer playgrounds, and of any plans we have heard of for the coming summer, which might help you in planning for your community's activities. So here are some scattered notes from all parts of our country. May they serve you well!

AMERICA'S PLAYGROUNDS, last summer, were busy places. There were, of course, the usual activities which make the playgrounds so popular as rendezvous for boys, girls, and even adults, but because we had entered the war there were many special service activities as well.

Do They Use Them? But before we talk about activities on the playground, let's answer the question—"Are the playgrounds used?" and talk about some general matters. Before last summer's vacation started for the children of Memphis, 33,264 of them were queried as to their use of the playground. More than 71 per cent of the children approached on this subject said they played on the grounds. Of the other 21 per cent some lived too far away to come, while others worked in their free hours.

Grownups, too, are using the playgrounds. There is a playground in Port Chester, New York, for example, which has been developed exclusively for grownups. It is a small area with a children's playground close by in the park, and in it are courts for bocci, handball, paddle tennis, horseshoes and similar games.

Leadership. It is difficult in these days of manpower shortage to secure enough trained leaders for the playgrounds. One solution of the problem lies in training volunteers, some of whom may be found among the older high school students.

Volunteer leaders on the park playgrounds in Indianapolis were secured through the cooperation of merchants' associations, P.T.A.'s, OCD, and other organized groups in each neighborhood. Men were recruited to handle athletic teams; women for storytelling, dramatics, crafts, or even "playground mothers" to look after small children while the leader directed activities. Members of child care groups sponsored by OCD who received training in games and crafts from workers of the Park Department served as junior leaders on the playgrounds.

Akron, Ohio, used a novel plan for securing leaders when the opening last summer of thirty-six playgrounds instead of the fourteen originally planned necessitated the employment of many more workers. In less than a week's time the Recreation Department recruited eighty-five playground workers by sending sixty telegrams to school teachers and by inserting a page advertisement in the help wanted columns of the local newspaper. School teachers, college students and high school graduates responded to the call. We might add that Akron's increased activity was due to the fact that the City Council appropriated an additional $16,000 for the recreation program!

If you are planning a training institute we suggest you write to the National Recreation Association for a copy of the institute syllabus, *Training Your Playground Leaders* ($.35). In addition to its general suggestions it has schedules, suggested topics, and lists of references which you will find exceedingly helpful.

Publicizing Playgrounds. Unless people can know what the playgrounds have to offer and what is going on there, they won't go to them. So they must be told. The director of the summer playground program in Reading, Massachusetts, realized this, so he first visited the Neighborhood Betterment Association and talked to the group there about the

Suppose We Play!

Gedge Harmon

Perhaps the salvage campaigns and some of the other activities which children took part in last summer sound to you more like work than play! We suggest that you read the article on page 21 of this issue — "They Also Serve"

proposed program. Next, he sent a mimeographed bulletin in the form of a letter to all of the children in the public schools telling them about the activities to be conducted. Finally, through the courtesy of the Municipal Electric Light Company a printed slip telling about the playground was sent into the homes of Reading with the monthly electricity bill.

Don't forget that the children, too, can help in publicity. In the Tuckahoe, New York, *Record* last summer there appeared regularly a column of playground notes provided by the children themselves, who wrote about interesting activities on their playgrounds. Some of these reporters were as young as eight years of age. One correspondent wrote of a community night at her playground:

"About 250 people turned out, and although there were loads of mosquitoes, everyone had a nice time, I am sure."

The Indianapolis Park Department publicized its recreation activities through the newspapers and, in addition, held a city-wide poster contest judged by two librarians, one head of the art department and the other head of the children's room of the central public library.

About Activities

Nature Recreation. Let's start with nature recreation because that is a feature of the program which grows more important all the time.

Children of all ages enjoyed the nature lore program on the playgrounds at Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, last summer. Little girls from 7 to 11 years of age met every morning for a period of nature recreation. They took short nature walks, learning to identify trees, birds, wild flowers, and butterflies. One of their projects was a bulletin board containing pictures they had made representing good neighbors in nature. Another was the making of wild flower books containing pictures drawn from the wild flowers they had gathered. The girls learned to identify twenty-five of the Museum's study birds. Among their trips outside the playground were visits to the Buhl Planetarium with the boys of the playground, and to the zoo.

The period from 10:15 to 11:00 each day was devoted to Girl Scout badge work in nature. Among the activities were trips to the Museum and Phipps Conservatory, and a number of hikes. The final two weeks were devoted to the study of stars and trees, to trips to the Planetarium, the Observatory, and the Riverview Natural History Museum.

A group of boys from eight to twelve years of age showed keen interest in "manifestations of nature," especially in the aquatic, land, animal and butterfly life about Cedarhurst Lake. A trip to the Planetarium led to the construction of a sun dial for the park. The boys enjoyed a cook-out and a number of picnics, topping off the program with overnight camping in the park.

Among the most popular of the activities of the Elmira, N. Y., playgrounds were the weekly hikes, picnics, and cook-outs.

Arts and Crafts. Nine of the largest commercial establishments in Chester, Pennsylvania, gave space in their windows for display of playground crafts, and both the chain stores and independent

merchants contributed some of their best window space. When the material was distributed each store was given articles from different playgrounds. This provided a kind of treasure hunt, since every child went from window to window looking for the articles he had made, each of which was identified with a small card giving the name of the owner, age, and the name of the playground. This device also gave the children an opportunity to see articles made by children on playgrounds other than their own. Many of the fathers and mothers visited the displays, which a large sign indicated were the work of the children on the local playgrounds.

In Bridgeport, Connecticut, under the auspices of the Department of Recreation, there were displays of crafts, but these were held at the individual playgrounds, and aroused much interest on the part of relatives and friends. There were hundreds of the usual articles made on playgrounds—leather belts, bracelets, pot holders, and innumerable others, but in addition there were some unusual projects.

On the land adjacent to the Harvey Went Playground the boys made out of some old lumber a boys' hut which won special recognition. One playground had a replica of the Yankee Stadium made out of cardboard 4′ x 4′. From others came attractive posters and paintings on wood, and an excellent ship model. The sewing done during the summer was especially good on all playgrounds and there were dresses, halters, blouses, aprons, and handkerchiefs galore.

The Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Recreation Association held an exhibit of handcraft articles in a downtown store window. In spite of the fact that it was almost impossible to secure materials, the 1943 exhibition was one of the largest in years. Bits of scrap felt were used to make little lapel novelties; linoleum odds and ends were carved into attractive wall plaques; with a few crayons, water colors, shellac or substitutes, ordinary paper picnic plates were beautifully decorated. Leather scraps from a near-by factory were made into coin purses, wallets, knife holders and link belts. With the aid of a hand drill, wood block belts laced together with brightly colored scrap yarn and with gaily colored pictures on each strap, made attractive belts.

Over 5,000 articles made on the playgrounds during the 1943 season is the proud report of the Akron, Ohio, Recreation Department. Among them were many stuffed animals, lapel gadgets, and household articles. There were two exhibits of handcraft—one, in the lobby of the municipal building; the other, in a prominent downtown store window.

Children of the Indianapolis playgrounds made useful articles for the armed forces, hospitals, and their own homes. On one playground the boys built a doll's house, painted and papered it; boys and girls together made furniture, while girls made drapes, curtains, and rugs. The finished project was presented to the Indianapolis Day Nursery.

Doll beds, dresses, chairs, and tables were used on the tot lots; game boards and other game equipment were made on all playgrounds. Other projects included embroidered bibs for the Day Nursery; tray favors, stuffed animals, and scrapbooks for children in hospitals; fans for the Home for the Aged; decorations for servicemen's centers and day care centers; comb cases, key holders, stationery folders filled with writing papers, braided lanyards, and scrapbooks of cartoons for the armed forces, and holders for ration books and war bonds for homes.

Music on the Playground. Music grows in favor on the playgrounds. Thirteen playgrounds in San Francisco had toy symphonies last summer which provided both recreation and education in music for the children. Using percussion instruments, smaller and more simplified than those of a regular orchestra, the children were organized according to age, preschool and advanced. The material offered and method of presentation were governed by the age of the children.

The music supervisor of the Indianapolis playgrounds organized rhythm bands, a small orchestra, and chorus groups, and held talent shows together with community sings on all occasions when groups gathered.

Shows. There were playground shows of all kinds last summer. Dolls of every description were in Bridgeport's doll show. Taken from closet shelves, picked out of their cribs, with faces washed and hair combed and dressed in their finest clothes, they made a brave showing.

Bridgeport had a pet show as well. "Bring your pet along with yourself," said the invi-

Last summer, in its playground program, the Philadelphia Bureau of Recreation stressed activities which were patriotic in nature and would contribute to the war effort. A few of the activities are described in this issue A later issue of RECREATION will contain an article telling of the city's Stay-at-Home Independence Day celebration which proved to be an outstanding occasion.

tation. "It may be a dog, cat, bird, fish, rabbit, or white mice, turtles, frogs, crocodiles or what have you. Clean them up and make them look their best." Some of the classifications for the dogs were: smallest, largest, most bandy legged, most sympathetic eyes, fattest, laziest, ugliest, best looking, and dogs with the most spots, longest tail, and "trickiest."

And there was a costume show in Bridgeport—a sort of summer Halloween, because the participants went about it in much the same manner. They got dressed up, took part in skits, sang songs, played harmonicas, and did a variety of stunts. There were cowboys, soldiers, sailors, Indians, and old-fashioned girls — just to mention a few.

The doll and pet show held in Syracuse, New York, had a setting made to resemble a miniature country fair with booths and stalls. Exhibits ranged from white mice to ponies.

Countless pet shows were held in cities all over the country

Gedge Harmon

Storytelling. On the Akron, Ohio, playgrounds children took turns telling stories as well as listening to them. Each storytelling group selected one of its favorite tales to dramatize as its contribution to the Neighborhood Play Day at the end of the season.

On many playgrounds last summer patriotic stories were the order of the day.

Interplayground Contests. Interplayground contests in a number of activities were staged last summer on the park playgrounds of St. Paul, Minnesota. Even first aid provided material for a contest. Teams of two, who alternated in each event as doctor and patient, competed for honors in applying bandages of various kinds.

Sand modeling was another activity in which there was close competition in four districts. Here the patriotic theme proved most popular. Modeling was judged on the basis of neatness, detail, originality, size and proportion, properties, general artistic judgment, and number of participants.

A horseshoe pitching contest was held on an elimination basis to determine winners in each age class at every center. Then came the choosing of a district champion, and finally a city champion.

Basketball throws for girls aroused much interest. Three throws were allowed each contestant in every event, and the best throw of the three was recorded on the score sheet. The three events were: (1) basketball throw overhead backward from the line, using both hands; (2) basketball round arm throw forward from the 7-foot circle marked on the ground; (3) basketball goal throw from foul line (10 trials for each contestant).

The boys competed in football and a graded scale of points was used according to distance of individuals in each age group for the pass, the drop kick and place kick.

A singing games contest with variations of standard singing games such as "Looby Lou" and "Farmer in the Dell" created new interest in these games.

Playground Elections. July 14th was election day on the Syracuse, New York, playgrounds. In order to vote boys and girls had to register on July 12th, and 1,300 of them did. As the result of the spirited campaign conducted on all the grounds, play leaders were elected to take over the playgrounds and conduct the program for one day. The elected leaders were guests of the Municipal Recreation Commission in the Common Council chambers at City Hall, where the Mayor and chairman of the Municipal Recreation Commission addressed them. Later they attended a movie as guests of the management of a local theater.

Pageants and Festivals. As a part of its August program, the Department of Parks and Recreation in Schenectady, New York, presented at Second Ward Park the "Pageant of the Four Freedoms." The children and young people who took part came from three of the playgrounds and ranged in age from 5 to 18. The event was featured by a large advertisement in the Schenectady *Union-Star,* which was accompanied by the announcement that the advertisement was made possible by

thirty-three local firms, organizations and individuals.

Beautiful Sigmund Stern Grove in San Francisco, California, became an enchanted place when the Recreation Department's annual summer festival took place there on June 13, 1943. Hundreds of children and young people appeared in folk dances, classical ballet, toy symphonies, choruses and specialty numbers. The Junior Civic Symphony was heard in overture and in accompaniment.

Last summer many cities celebrated Joseph Lee Day at the end of July. There will be celebrations all over the country this summer. Write the National Recreation Association for material which will help you in observing this important special day.

Five hundred youngsters from the thirty-three playgrounds of Reading, Pennsylvania, participated in the final folk dance festival held before an audience of 2,000 persons at the close of the summer. For an hour the children presented a program of songs and dances, including "How Do You Do?" "Turn Around Me," "Swiss May Dance," "Old Roger," "Carrousel," "Gustaf Skol," and "Seven Jumps." Leaders of the various play centers taught and guided the children. Parents' playground associations helped the children make Robin Hood costumes, pinafores, aprons, boleros, capes, crepe paper hats, and patriotic dresses of red, white, and blue.

Playground or district play days were stressed by the Indianapolis Park Department last summer as a substitute for the annual pageant. These included almost every activity which made up the program. Some were set up with a definite theme, while some resembled a county fair. The play days were as varied as the interests and preferences of the children who helped to plan them.

Akron is another city which substituted neighborhood celebrations for the usual end of the season city-wide play festival or pageant. The playgrounds were divided into areas, and the smaller grounds of the district collaborated with one large park in the section. This helped greatly with transportation problems.

Each area had its own dramatic skit, exhibition of handcraft, games, and presentation of awards. These were made on a point basis for leadership and service, team games, individual games, and sportsmanship. About 2,000 children on thirty-five playgrounds received awards.

At the close of the season, children from all the playgrounds of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, participated in a play, "A Boy and His Flag," which was the public performance of the season. It was a patriotic play which included patriotic drills and songs, a parachute dance and a red, white, and blue dance.

"A Carnival of Play" was the name given the annual playground festival sponsored in 1943 by the Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia. The festival carried out the summer's theme, "unrationed play," which stressed the desirability of permitting the children as far as possible to choose the kind of play they wanted.

The setting for the festival was the corner of a street or village square, decorated in carnival style, with tents or pavilions for different features, exhibits, and displays of posters in colorful appropriate designs. The carnival opens with a procession of the participants to the scene, with barkers and musicians in the lead, and clowns, tumblers and other performers bringing up the rear. The performers stop at the tents assigned to them, according to the type of program they are to put on. The carnival master, with the various barkers, proceeds to the central tent and introduces the performers — groups of small children, juniors and seniors—who put on the activities.

The arts and crafts projects were carried on in the same spirit of freedom of choice, and these were conspicuously successful. A great deal of talent came to light and unusual originality and initiative were revealed. A number of the boys became interested in making posters and decorations for the carnival and some of them showed genuine talent in that field.

Gedge Harmon

Family groups were encouraged to picnic on the playgrounds

Gedge Harmon

There were "special days" when they left the playground and went on delightful adventures

The summer playground festival presented by the Montclair, New Jersey, Recreation Department made use of the victory garden theme and featured farmerettes and some of the animals which you would rather not see in your garden. You may secure free from the National Recreation Association a copy of the *All American Victory Garden and Playground Festival.*

Two simple pageants are also available from the Association. One of them, *All for Victory,* by Elizabeth Hanley, Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia, presents in a delightful way the conservation and salvage program of the playgrounds. The other, *Children of the Americas,* written by Florence Rhones of the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Recreation Association, depicts in songs and dances periods in the history of America. These pageants are available at ten cents each.

And Still They Travel! In spite of transportation difficulties, they traveled last summer. We have told you in this issue of Cleveland's traveling zoo, and Waterloo's Victory Wagon, but there were other caravans as well, for traveling about the playgrounds and parks of Memphis, Tennessee, last summer was a gayly painted traveling game wagon, complete with everything from badminton darts and racquets to croquet sets, baseball bats and horseshoes. Quiet games also were included. The bright awning over the wagon carried the sign, "Games to Lend."

They took trips away from the playgrounds, too. There were the outings in San Francisco, for example, where the careful planning which was done by the San Francisco Recreation Department had a great deal to do with their success. As early as April 1943, the directors from the six districts into which the city had been divided began holding meetings to discuss the cost of the outings, traveling distances, facilities and interesting points to be visited.

Each district selected one day a week for an outing away from the playground. In addition to this district day, each of which was attended by more than three hundred children, city-wide events were held and special programs conducted by the departments on garden clubs, swimming, junior museum, physical fitness, music, and girls' and women's activities.

A requirement for the program was that at least twenty children must participate in order for a group to leave the playground. Much of the success of these special events was due to the fact that it was possible for the Department to supply substitute directors while the regular leaders were off the grounds.

Syracuse, New York, conducts nine swimming pools which last summer served a large number of residents and visiting servicemen. A Learn-to-Swim campaign was a feature of the program. The Municipal Recreation Commission reports that the women lifeguards, who outnumbered the men, proved themselves thoroughly reliable and satisfactory.

Trips were taken to Golden Gate Park, Fleishacker Zoo, Junior Museum, Fisherman's Wharf, Roller Skating Rink, Crystal Baths, and many other places of interest.

To publicize the special events, a mimeographed program was distributed throughout the schools of the city and posted on the bulletin boards of each playground. The invitation issued through these programs was attractively phrased in a way designed to attract the children. Here, for example, is the announcement for District Four:

"On to your Playground daily go
For stories, games and puppet show
And if you live in District Four
Wednesday's the day for fun galore."

June 23—Trip to Zoo

We'll meet at the playground at exactly nine-thirty
Wear heavy shoes and clothes not too dirty
Pack a big lunch for we'll eat too
As we go out to enjoy Fleishacker's Zoo.

June 30—Picnic at Gilman Playground

Around nine-thirty be ready to go
For we must reach the beach while the tide is low
Bring your lunch, and be ready for fun
For we plan to do everything under the sun.

July 7—Boy's Swim at Mission Pool

We'll leave here, boys, at 1 P. M.
For those who can't go—we're sorry for them
For it will be warm—and what with no school
There'll be nothing like swimming in a nice cool pool.

July 14—Girls' Indoor Fun at Jackson

Have you ever laughed 'til your sides did ache?
If not, young ladies, for goodness sake!
Be here on the ground at a quarter to one
And we'll take you to Jackson for oodles of fun.

July 21—Picnic at Golden Gate Park

A picnic is fun—that you all know
So at 9 A. M. to the Park we'll go
Bring a big lunch and some small change too
For the donkeys and swings
will be waiting for you.

July 28—Joseph Lee Day at North Beach Playground

For small children to be followed by swim at Crystal Plunge (city-wide).

Aug. 4—Play Day at Jackson

This is a day we know
you'll enjoy
And that includes every
girl and boy.
There'll be races and games
and surprises galore
Leave your grounds at
eleven—be back by four.

Aug. 11—Skating at Coliseum Bowl

Bring twenty cents and be ready to roll
On a pair of skates at Coliseum Bowl.
See your directors and they'll let you know
Exactly what time everyone shall go.

Aug. 18—Treasure Hunt at Sunnydale

"Yo Ho Ho" and a "Heave Ho My Hearty"
This is the day for your Treasure Hunt Party.
So keep your eyes open, and clues you'll uncover
That will lead you to prizes for you to discover.

Health the Fun Way. For several years the Indianapolis, Indiana, Park Department cooperated with the Dairy Council in stressing with the playground children the importance of good health and how it can be maintained. Last year the Council presented a puppet show, "The Cowboy and the Cook," which was shown on sixteen different playgrounds and reached more than 4,000 children. The Department divided the sixty-three playgrounds into districts, chose the playground most centrally located and having the best facilities, and invited all near-by playgrounds to attend. The rhythm bands furnished cowboy music; chorus groups sang western songs, while dancers, rope twirlers, and other talented members of the group combined to make the show a huge success. Six boys and girls who play accordions and guitars volunteered their services for each performance.

A Swimming Campaign. Because civilians of today may be servicemen of tomorrow, a Civilian Commando Swimming Campaign was conducted last summer in the swimming pools maintained by the Bureau of Recreation of Philadelphia. This campaign was considered of primary importance because of the necessity for men to know how to keep themselves afloat in the water, to keep alive under water, to forge ahead with heavy packs and equipment, and to care for themselves and others in any emergency in the water.

Three courses were conducted, graded junior, senior and expert, to enable beginners, intermediate and advanced swimmers to qualify. The expert test included all the events listed in the junior and senior courses, plus additional water stunts. Any swimmer who passed the expert course automatically received credit for the three tests.

The response to our request for information on last summer's playground programs was so generous that it has been utterly impossible to publish all of the material in this issue of RECREATION. There will be many other practical and interesting articles in the May number of the magazine. Don't miss this issue.

We also offer the suggestion that you consult the inside back cover of this issue for a listing of publications available through the Association which have value for your program, and that you send for complete lists of publications.

The requirements of the junior course consisted of five events which were—20-yard breast stroke swim; 20-yard back stroke swim; float or tread water three minutes and disrobe in the water; swim 10 yards under water; 20-yard swim fully clothed.

The senior course requirements included ten events—a 30-yard breast stroke swim; a 30-yard side stroke swim; a 30-yard back stroke swim; a 30-yard swim fully clothed carrying five pounds of equipment; jump in the water, disrobe and float or tread water five minutes; block and a 20-yard head carry; parry and a 20-yard cross chest carry; a 20-yard fireman's carry in shallow water; a 15-yard swim under water; a 300-yard swim.

The expert course included nine events which were—a 150-yard swim fully clothed using breast, side and back stroke; jump in the water fully clothed, disrobe and float or tread water five minutes; a 15-yard swim under water fully clothed; block and a 20-yard head carry, both rescuer and victim fully clothed; parry and a 20-yard cross chest carry, both rescuer and victim fully clothed; a 20-yard fireman's carry, both rescuer and victim fully clothed; a 30-yard swim fully clothed carrying nine to ten pounds of equipment; artificial respiration; a 300-yard swim.

There are servicemen who owe their lives to the fact that they learned to swim in Philadelphia's municipal swimming pool.

Safety Patrols. Safety patrols, organized last summer on the playgrounds of Akron proved highly successful. One Captain, one Lieutenant, two Sergeants, and four Guards were selected to form a patrol for each playground, except in areas where the number of children warranted a larger personnel. A manual with safety rules was furnished the children. The following general instructions were given in the manual:

1. See that all play equipment is in a safe condition and in good working order. There should be an inspection of all equipment at least once daily. Report any defect in equipment to a supervisor immediately.
2. See that safety rules listed in this manual are obeyed by all children. If a child refuses to obey the rules of safety, report the case to a superior officer, who in turn will speak to the child. If the child still refuses to obey, report the case to a supervisor.
3. Set an example for other children by observing all safety rules yourself while at play.
4. Keep the playground free from glass, nails, loose bricks, etc.
5. Carry this manual with you at all times.
6. Wear your armband at all times. It is your badge of authority.

General Safety Rules

1. Report accidents promptly to supervisors.
2. Do not use apparatus when it is wet.
3. Exercise care for others by playing games at a safe distance from other groups of children.
4. Look ahead when running.
5. Keep drinking fountains free from papers, peelings and other rubbish.
6. Refrain from throwing sand, sticks, stones, etc.
7. Stay off walls, fences, gates, and fire escapes.
8. Avoid use of dangerous toys, such as air rifles, sling-shots, pea shooters, bows and arrows, etc.
9. See that bicycles, tricycles, scooters, etc., are parked in a safe place, not laid on the ground where children may fall over them. A separate pamphlet covers the rules on bicycles.
10. Play quiet games during the hottest part of the day.
11. Avoid participating in activities which cause you to become overheated.
12. It is unwise to drink large quantities of cold liquids when very warm.
13. Avoid petting or molesting strange animals.
14. Prevent children from playing with matches. Consult a supervisor before starting any fires —such as burning rubbish.
15. Consider every wire a live wire. Do not handle any wires hanging from poles or buildings. If you find a wire, station someone to guard it while you call a supervisor.
16. Do not attempt to lift heavy objects beyond your strength. When lifting heavy objects, bend the knees, keeping the back straight and heels on the ground, using the legs for leverage and *not* your back.

Victory Camps for Children

By MARGARET A. MORDY

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES for war service are we offering our children of elementary school age—too young to work, but still acutely conscious of the war and anxious to help?

"Victory Camps" was the answer of South Pasadena last summer, and so successful was the venture that it will be repeated this year.

The Victory Camp is an organized program operated as a modified co-recreational day camp during July and August. The idea originated in the mind of one of the local youth executives who suggested that the youth agencies cooperate with the Recreation Department in sponsoring an enlarged summer playground program. This suggestion was met with enthusiasm by the members of the Youth Executive Council, a subsidiary organization of the Recreation Commission, now in its third year. The Council is composed of the executives of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and Y.M.C.A., a local minister who represents the Christian Youths Council, and the superintendent of recreation, with the chairman of the Recreation Commission acting as chairman. These organizations agreed to pool leadership, funds, and program ideas in one large city-wide youth program. Thus the first important step had been taken.

Hearing of the project, the local Citizens' Service Corps invited the Council members, together with representatives of the city schools, the public library, and the Red Cross to come together for further discussion of the plan. At the outset the need for centralized leadership was apparent. A woman widely known for her civic interest and knowledge of youth problems was selected as coordinator for the program. She interviewed civic leaders, sampling opinions and ideas, and gradually the program began to evolve.

The schools were willing to contribute facilities for part of the program. The library would send a mobile unit to each center one day a week. The Y.M.C.A. would be responsible for organized sports for boys. The Girl Scouts would spend the money usually allotted to day camp operation for a specialist in dramatics. The Red Cross would hire a part-time worker to plan, direct and conduct Junior Red Cross activities. The Boy Scouts would teach camp craft, and the Camp Fire Girls' executive would take charge of the handcraft program. The Girl Scouts would teach outdoor cooking.

So the program grew, and interest increased. The city's Recreation Department, of course, carried a heavy responsibility, for it agreed to provide the paid leadership, the supervisor of the program, a craft specialist, directors and play leaders for each of the four centers, as well as the equipment and supplies necessary for operation.

The Victory Camps could not have operated a full well-rounded activity program, however, without the aid of many volunteers. Each organization was asked to submit lists of possible leaders, individuals who had had previous training or experience in work with children, if possible, since there was no time for any type of leadership training course. Names were secured from the files of the Citizens' Service Corps. The chairman of volunteers called each of these potential leaders personally, and each was listed according to preferred location, activity, and time of service. The results were amazing, for over ninety adults enthusiastically agreed to help. Most of these had had experience in crafts, music, dramatics, scouting, public recreation programs, or physical education which could be of great value.

Miss Mordy, who is the Supervisor of Girls' and Women's Activities of the South Pasadena, California, Recreation Department, tells of the experiment in community cooperation which made last summer's playground program outstanding in the history of the city.

Details Are Worked Out

A surprising development was the frequent question

This is the story of the Victory Camp program conducted last summer in South Pasadena, California, a city of about 15,000 residents. This year the program will be headed by a Victory Camp Board of Directors who will manage and finance the program, with the Recreation Department furnishing all of the facilities and some of the equipment. The project will be expanded to include participants from 6 to 21 years.

from school principals, local ministers, and parents, "But aren't you going to charge anything for this splendid program?"

The committee considered the suggestion seriously. Would a fee be violating public recreation policies? This was not a needy community. Few, if any, children would be excluded by a small fee. Would not parents and children alike appreciate the program more if they contributed a little to it? Accordingly, a fee of $2.00 per child for the eight weeks' period was decided upon, with a $5.00 family rate for a family covering more than two children. It was made clear that no child would be excluded from the grounds if he could not afford to pay.

The name "Victory Camp" was selected because the program resembled a wartime substitute for camping. It was more complete and more carefully planned than the playground programs of preceding years, and therefore it would have more appeal to the children enrolling in it.

Two days were set aside for enrollment at the camps. Upon enrolling the child received a button which stated, "I am a Victory Camper." He was registered on the director's list, and a membership card was filed for him. Upon completion of registration, each camp had an enrollment of about 75 children. The total enrollment for the four camps was 300.

The Program

The over-all program was developed by the coordinator, representing the cooperating groups, and the playground supervisor. A sample day's program at one of the camps follows:

1:30 - 2:00 P.M. Assembly (music, storytelling, committee reports, reading of the log, etc.)

2:00 - 2:15 P.M. Distribution of supplies

2:15 - 3:30 P.M. Day's principal activities (Junior Red Cross, crafts, pottery, wood shop, outdoor cooking, dramatics, library, folk dancing, game activities varied each day)

3:30 - 3:45 P.M. Clean-up

3:45 - 4:00 P.M. Evaluation and summary, announcements for the following day

4:00 - 5:00 P.M. Free play or organized sports

Specialists visited each camp once a week, and each day differed slightly from the preceding one in the activities offered. In addition to the planned program, quiet games, dolls and toys, equipment for playing house were provided for the children not interested in the planned program.

The camps became a practical laboratory in democratic living. Each child served on a committee in a way which was essential to the successful operation of the camp. There were clean-up committees, keepers of the log, distributor of supplies, equipment custodians, librarians, and Junior Red Cross leaders. Children made their own safety rules, helped to conduct assemblies, and solved many of the camp problems.

The Junior Red Cross activities proved to be one of the most successful aspects of the Victory Camps. Here the children found an outlet for their desire for service. Their pride in the mounting piles of toys and presents for refugee children and for soldiers was immense. They did careful work and their contributions will be of real value to those who receive them.

As an experiment in community cooperation the Victory Camps have been a civic triumph in South Pasadena. Never before have all groups worked so hard or so many hours together in the achievement of a common cause. The children have been given a wide-range program. It has been educational, but more than that it has been fun, fun to play and learn and serve, fun to belong to a democratic society.

Every afternoon at 3:30 there comes a 15 minute clean-up period

Print by Gedge Harmon

Music on Summer Playgrounds

By ESTHER A. SROLE
Supervisor of Music—1943
Reading, Pennsylvania

THE SUMMER of 1943 was a musical one for the playgrounds of Reading, Pennsylvania. The tide of world events was brought into the focus of recreation activities through the selection of a musical theme as the nucleus of the summer program, the title of which was "Music Unites the Nations." Heretofore, in this musical-minded city, there had been little emphasis placed on music as a primary interest in child play. How to elevate this neglect of a basic art to a position of importance was the chief problem.

At the outset, the music supervisor compiled and arranged a thirty-page Music Bulletin containing words and music to varied songs suitable for wide-range use. The numerous features of the summer program, and especially the United Nations theme, lent themselves to musical correlation; the folk songs chosen for the Bulletin were included with that factor in mind. In addition to this basic reference manual, supplementary music materials and pamphlets were issued to all playground leaders from time to time.

The second hurdle to overcome was the fact that only a minority of the fifty leaders had had any experience in organizing or directing activities of a musical nature. During the ten-day leaders' institute preceding the opening of playgrounds, the music supervisor conducted daily sessions devoted to group singing and song leading. In these instructional periods the leaders were taught songs by rote, and practiced conducting songs with the fundamental meters before the entire group. In general, they acquired the rudiments which were essential to overcoming self-consciousness in leading informal group singing. Various approaches to enthusiastic singing were explained and illustrated, such as humming, whistling, clapping rhythms, "detecting" tunes, group conducting, tune combinations, nonsense songs, stunt songs, rounds, and the game of "carrying on the song," with individuals singing successive phrases, plus other musical games.

Music as a tonic for morale was the underlying thread pervading the program. This key purpose was expressed in a motto: "Get more people singing more songs!" With this as an incentive, the leaders set to the task of motivating musical interest among the children.

Singing—Any Time, Any Place!

As starters, provocative music posters were placed on bulletin boards on every playground. Informal daily song-fests were held at appropriate times during the day—during intense heat, during handcraft periods, after storytelling hours, and alternating with quiet games and dramatics. Emanating from these daily sings there arose the natural follow-up desire to form choruses. The children who were most interested in group singing met together at definite times during the week, selected fitting titles for their organizations (for example, the *Victory Song Club*), chose officers, learned new songs, reviewed old favorites, kept musical scrapbooks, and were relied upon to participate as featured "artists" on many special programs. On Reading's thirty-three playgrounds there were twenty-four of these small local choruses, functioning as the backbone of the entire musical picture.

It's great fun to be a member of Reading's summer playground band

Courtesy Reading, Pa., Recreation Department

A novel device which helped to motivate in-

terest was the choice of a "Song of the Day" and "Song of the Week" on each playground. These were selected favorites chosen by the children. At the close of the season these titles resulted in a "Hit Parade of Summer Tunes," with a distinctive list for every playground. It was gratifying to note that the songs were in good taste and displayed discriminating choice. Several attempts were made at composing playground songs. The results were, for the most part, original words set to familiar tunes, lauding the spirit and fun to be found on ..... Playground.

In addition to the vocal side, the instrumental aspect was also utilized. Experimental rhythm bands and kitchen bands were formed on several playgrounds. However, the outstanding feature was the city-wide playground band composed of forty-five youngsters directed by a playground leader with instrumental experience. They rehearsed two mornings weekly at the Y.M.C.A. The band, in uniform, played engagements free of charge, giving one-hour programs at evening playground festivals sponsored by Parents' Playground Associations. In addition, there were four municipally-operated bands which performed for public concerts throughout the summer season.

"You can have fun with music just as you can have fun with many other things that you would not dream of considering seriously as an accomplishment, least of all from the professional standpoint. The big advantage of music is that you can play or sing or compose it by yourself. It is not necessary for you to show off your ability to other people, or to compete with anyone else. So long as you enjoy it, that is enough."— ***Sigmund Spaeth*** **in** ***Fun With Music.***

Music was introduced wherever possible to enhance the playground program. The daily routine activities acquired new color with the extra lilt that music contributed. Daily flag-raising ceremonies which started the playground day were accompanied by patriotic songs such as, "This Is My Country," "You're a Grand Old Flag," and others. Folk tales were interspersed with folk songs; singing games and interpreting rhythms were enjoyed; music appreciation groups gathered around victrolas; songs were gaily dramatized (for example, the English folk song, "O, Soldier, Soldier"); musical charades and action songs were pantomimed; there was singing during and after folk dancing festivals; war stamps were zealously sold to the tune of appropriate parodies and jingles; cautions for safety were sung in rhyme; adults and children sang lustily on hikes and at picnics, at festivals, at community sings, and concerts. Music was "in the air" everywhere!

Special Events Featured by Music

The music supervisor issued weekly lists of songs to be taught to the children, in keeping with the summer theme and coming special events. Music was incorporated as an integral part of every outstanding program. At the beginning of the season, Fourth of July celebrations were woven around numerous patriotic and service songs of all types. Highlights of the season were the minstrel shows, which lent themselves so well to musical-jamboree effects. Suggested songs for these programs were "Shortnin' Bread," "Li'l Liza Jane," "Dixie," "Camptown Races," and a number of Stephen Foster melodies. The choruses in blackface carried the bulk of these programs along, with occasional solos and background effects by the "entire company."

Pirate nights, which were boisterous events, were made more realistic by the singing of nautical ditties, such as "Sailing, Sailing," "Nancy Lee," and "A Capital Ship," rendered by terrifying pirates. Dramatic stunt nights included musical stunts as "fillers" between skits and playlets. Here again, playground choruses supplied musical backgrounds for pantomimes and other novelty numbers.

Afternoon musical teas were informal gatherings of the "garden party" variety in which music held sway in programs featuring the choruses in various "roles," with solos, duets, trios, both vocal and instrumental. Refreshments were served to heighten the proper atmosphere. For the most part, these musical teas were organized and directed by poised child conductors who, after several weeks of musical participation, were sufficiently competent to take charge of informal get-togethers of this nature. These programs were planned with the purpose of embodying one of the amenities of gracious social living into a playground environment.

At the End of the Season

The culmination of Reading's musical summer occurred with the presentation of a spectacular music festival, "Music Unites the Nations," performed in the open-air Band Shell at City Park. Weeks before rehearsals were contemplated, the

music supervisor supplied each leader with an outline of the program. The songs, dances, singing games, pantomimes, and costumes included authentic examples from the folk art, music, and literature of thirteen United Nations. With this summary each leader received a "cue" sheet indicating her duties in helping to organize the festival, and was requested to choose a specified number of children for a designated part in the festival. This plan insured representation of participants from all playgrounds.

He was seated in a swing on one of the playgrounds, gently sweeping his fingers over the strings of a guitar. Crossing the park came another boy who seated himself in a second swing. Soon his voice was heard ringing across the park as he sang a tuneful song to the accompaniment of the guitar. The next day the two boys came back with a third carrying a guitar.

"It was then," writes the director of Brinkley Playground, Memphis, "that real music began on our playgrounds." A special place was made for the boys in the program. Soon instruments arrived from the recreation center—a toy piano, a drum with cymbals, a tambourine. Then more boys came, and now there are times when the playground is alive with melody.

At the biweekly staff conferences the music supervisor reviewed the musical numbers with the leaders, who in turn instructed the youngsters. The most intensive practice was required in training the festival chorus, which was composed of members from each of the twenty-four small choruses mentioned above, to provide a grand total of one hundred singers for the performance. After the leaders had taught the words and melodies of the festival songs over a period of time to choristers on their grounds, four Sectional Chorus rehearsals were scheduled. Children from these areas of the city met on successive days on four different playgrounds where the music supervisor further reviewed with them the numerous songs, working for special effects, and striving for good tone quality, clear diction, and correct interpretation.

Meanwhile, on her supervisory visits, the music supervisor checked on the progress of the perfection of the dances, pantomimes, and singing games. During the week prior to the music festival performance, two full rehearsals were held in a centrally-located auditorium. The organ accompanist, the reader, boy soprano soloist, choristers, pantomime groups, solo and group dancers, and leading characters vigorously went through their paces. The entire dress rehearsal, with a cast of two hundred, took place on the day preceding the big event.

Courtesy Memphis Park Commission

The "Music Unites the Nations" festival, dedicated to the children of the United Nations, was a colorful evening affair which lasted one and one-half hours. The Playground Band played a short introductory program, before the costumed chorus of one hundred children (ranging in age from seven to sixteen), filed on to the Band Shell, singing "Marching Along Together." From this jolly beginning, the program moved smoothly along through a succession of songs and dances from Great Britain, Australia,

(Continued on page 53)

"They Also Serve"

But they didn't only "stand and wait"—these children on America's playgrounds. They were busy last summer serving their country, their communities, and their playgrounds. They made thousands of articles for servicemen and for children in institutions. They bought and sold war stamps and bonds, and they collected tin cans. They made a game of working and had lots of fun. And of course they took time off to enjoy the regular activities of the playground.

They'll work just as hard this summer—perhaps harder—for they're resourceful and keep finding new ways to serve.

THE CHILDREN on the public playgrounds of Reading, Pennsylvania, felt last summer that they were playing a very definite part in the war effort. They made and turned over to the Junior Red Cross for distribution among the servicemen in hospitals 2,000 handcraft articles, including jigsaw puzzles packed in neatly painted boxes or cans, joke booklets, and sewing kits known as "housewives." They also made toys which were sent by the Red Cross to institutions for refugee children, and they helped in salvage campaigns. To add interest, novel ways of collecting the waste material were invented. One of these was a scavenger hunt. The children on the playground were divided into teams and given a definite starting time and a time limit for the hunt. The list of objects to be hunted included broken wrenches, pieces of chain, lead pipes, old iron lamp stands, old water faucets, and wrecked car wheels. The scavenger hunt produced results!

Dull days will be brightened for many servicemen because of the handcraft work being done at the recreation centers maintained by Philadelphia's Bureau of Recreation. During the year 10,487 articles were made and presented to the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Seamen's Church Institute. The majority of articles were made from scrap material. Several large cartons of velour, mohair, cretonne and chintz, donated by an interior decorator, were transformed into lap robes, hospital slippers, ditty bags, and needle cases. Broom handles were sawed into disks and painted for checkers. Colorful scrapbooks of crossword puzzles, quizzes, and laugh-lines were made by the boys and girls. Afghans, bed socks, memo pads, writing cases, and other articles were contributed.

"Your deal" and "What do you bid?" will be heard more frequently on the ships at sea and in base hospitals because of the drive for playing cards held in Philadelphia's recreation centers. Eight hundred decks of cards in good condition were contributed in a short space of time when people were asked to search in closets and drawers for cards and to contribute all surplus decks which they found. The cards were given to the Seamen's Church Institute and to the Salvation Army.

Children of Long Beach, California, came into direct participation in wartime activities through certain handcraft projects suggested by the Red Cross, scrap metal drives, book and magazine collection for servicemen, and certain safety training related to the program of civilian defense. Indirectly the very noticeable increase in model aircraft classes undoubtedly reflected war influences.

The sale of war stamps and bonds highlighted the program on many a playground last summer. The Recreation Commission of Waterloo, Iowa, streamlined its program when it sent a Victory Wagon on weekly trips to the

The schedule of Waterloo's Victory Wagon included weekly trips to the playgrounds

playgrounds. This War Stamp Trailer was very popular and the small purchases of stamps by a large number of children added up to an imposing total. The amplified patriotic music drew the attention of many of the city's adults.

Playground children of St. Louis took an active part in the sale of bonds and stamps, and total sales up to August 1st passed the $25,000 mark. The Board of Education was given the use of two jeeps, each with a driver, which visited the playgrounds having the highest percentage of purchases.

Every Friday children on the playgrounds of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, opened their booths to sell war bonds and stamps. The booths were made and attractively painted by the children themselves, and a total of $2,839.40 worth of bonds and stamps (chiefly stamps) was sold during the six weeks of this activity. The children of each playground took special pride in working hard to get their particular playground at the top of the list. An adult committee was selected from each playground to act as an advisory and sponsoring group. This gave the project a standing in the community and eliminated carelessness in the handling of stamps and bonds.

Hundreds of children entered the war bond slogan contest held in one city and produced such winning slogans as "Buy Bonds and Stamps to Make America Gigantic on the Atlantic and Terrific on the Pacific"; "War Stamps Are Rivets in the Bridge of Victory." Local civic clubs and interested citizens provided the funds for the war stamp awards given the children who produced the winning slogans.

The development of a Junior Defense Corps provided an interesting service activity in Morgantown, West Virginia, where, under the auspices of the Monongalia County Recreation Council, children in each district registered with their play leader; using the OCD registration blanks, and indicated in what capacity they would like to serve. There were the Junior Air Raid Wardens, Junior Auxiliary Police, Nurses Aides, and other service groups. Each child supplied his own equipment, interviewed his local OCD official and assisted him with regular duties. Every two weeks at each playground a demonstration was held, such as a make-believe blackout, where first aid was applied and all members were called upon to execute their duties. Children brought their own lunches, which were served canteen style.

The crafts program was devoted to making articles suitable for army hospitals. The music program, too, carried out the theme of national defense and patriotic songs were sung. In the drama program a one-act play contest was conducted. Each ticket sold entitled the purchaser to one war stamp.

An example of service to local playgrounds was provided by Dayton, Ohio, where a new organization for children, known as the "Plamandos," was sponsored by the Bureau of Recreation. Children were taught to take care of expendable equipment, to organize and manage teams, tell stories to younger children, and perform other types of volunteer service on the playgrounds. When the boy or girl had given twenty-four hours of such service, he or she was eligible for a citation from the Office of Civilian Defense. The first occasion for the presentation of such citations occurred one Sunday evening at the band shell during the intermission of a band concert. The children accepted their responsibilities very seriously and were of material assistance.

Writing in the *Progressive Physical Educator* on "Recreation Objectives and Programs in Wartime," Alfred H. Wyman urges recreation leaders in all fields to keep constantly in mind three words —Substitution, Improvisation, and Innovation.

Of "Substitution" Mr. Wyman says: "To be able to substitute odds and ends of salvage or native materials for prohibited materials causes all recreation workers to be ingenious and creative. The craft house in camp or the workshop at the recreation center or in the school should be reorganized on the basis of serving all other departments and branches of play service. . . . Our motto in the arts and crafts department for the duration might well be, 'Not gadget but game conscious.'"

"Improvisation" should inspire us to convert programs to meet preinduction needs. "Bringing into play programs the ranger type of games can be thrilling. . . . There is a great field in pioneer and primitive sports and activities that even children, and especially youth, will enjoy and from which they will receive lasting benefits."

Under "Innovation," Mr. Wyman mentions "Swimmando" activities. . . . "Here is the play leader's chance to substitute for the standard aquatic and athletic events a new program of splashless strokes, floating with packs on improvised rafts, and crossing rivers without bridges."

Some Wartime Programs for Girls

Print by Gedge Harmon

What activities can we plan for girls which will help them feel they have a real part in the war effort? The material presented here, which has been taken from the Bulletin issued by the Eastern Association of Girls Clubs of America, gives some interesting facts about programs in a number of cities.

When the Waterbury, Conn., Girls' Club last summer undertook its vacation project —a camp for seventy-five girls—it decided that the girls would feel they had a greater stake in the war effort if they were put in an atmosphere savoring of the military. The camp was accordingly called the "Junior WAC Camp," and the girls, while having as much fun as ever, were given responsibility for seeing that the work of the camp was done. Each girl made her own bed, groups attacked the dishes, and the younger ones cleaned the camp grounds, picking up papers and sharp stones from the road.

To give a further military touch, each girl was given a rank. The youngest girls and the first to come to camp were called buck privates, but as they proved their helpfulness they were moved up the scale to private first class, corporal, and sergeant. Counselors were called third officers; the assistant director, captain; and the director, colonel. "Orders of the day" were read; the honor camper was called "officer of the day" and inspected the camp with the colonel.

Worcester Girls, Too, Do War Work

The Worcester Girls' Club as its contribution to war work extended its regular summer program to include the children of war workers. Beginning in July a day care center was opened at the club. Taking their cue from the Waterbury club, the services of thirty girls, twelve years old and over, were enlisted. These girls, called Junior WACs, cared for the small children and supervised them in games, at the rest period, and at lunch hour. The Junior WACs themselves were under the supervision of three staff members, assisted by five volunteers, women who had enlisted at the Office of Civilian Defense and had taken a course in nutrition at the club.

During the afternoon when the children were being taken care of by staff members, the Junior WACs were given instruction in canning, bread making and dressmaking. The girls made their own uniforms, which were the regulation Red Cross canteen style and very attractive. Twenty hours of service were required for a certificate.

At the end of the summer most of the girls had averaged eighty hours of service, and four had given 105 hours. At a little ceremony certificates were awarded by a lieutenant, the head of the WAC recruiting office in Worcester. Special awards were given for excellence in canteen work, child care, crafts, and general helpfulness.

Because of the success of the summer course, the WAC program was carried into the regular club program in the fall. The girls who had the benefit of the summer course are now assisting in training new members while enjoying their own course, to which have been added first aid, home nursing and a doctor's health course. The training in each subject covers five weeks, at the end of which a chevron is awarded. At the end of fifteen weeks, chevrons are pinned on uniforms, certificates are awarded and officers chosen to assist in training the new group. During the fifteen-week period of required subjects, an optional course in setting up exercises is given three times a week. A chevron is awarded for this.

The WACs have assisted in outside services such as folding and arranging of Girls' Club pamphlets to be sent to all the schools, and enclosing Community Chest flyers in Electric Light Company bill envelopes.

At One of Newark's Centers

Peshine Avenue Community Center in Newark, N. J.,

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Millburn is fortunate in having an attractive recreation building located in the center of Taylor Park near the shore of the lake

By GEORGE H. BAUER
Supervisor of Recreation
Millburn, New Jersey

How Recreation Grew in Millburn

MILLBURN, NEW JERSEY, for a long time needed a public recreation program! To be sure, Millburn Township had a number of private clubs providing social and recreational activities for their members, but facilities were available to a relatively small proportion of the citizens. It had, too, the Neighborhood Association, a social service organization financed by public subscription, which in addition to its general social service activity was doing some excellent work with small children chiefly of preschool age. The town, however, was lacking in such institutions as Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A. or a Boys' Club with facilities, and Millburn needed an all-around public recreation system which would serve all the Millburn citizens.

The first step toward securing this program was taken in 1915 when the Hartshorne Estate set aside and equipped a small plot of ground. This small playground is supervised by the visiting nurse of the Neighborhood Association.

Another step forward was taken in 1924 when Mrs. John Taylor purchased fifteen acres of undeveloped land in the center of the town, completely landscaped the property, equipped it with recreation facilities, and presented it to the township. At the presentation on May 30, 1924, the park was named "Taylor Park" in honor of the donor.

In 1925 the first full-time recreation worker was appointed and her salary was paid by a public-spirited resident. The supervision given by this full-time worker proved so satisfactory that at the end of the first year the Township assumed her salary.

Between 1925 and 1934 there was a steady development of the recreation program until in 1934 there was a full-time man director and a woman assistant and secretary. In the summertime five additional playground workers and a lifeguard were employed, and in the winter, part-time leaders for evening activities were added in the school buildings.

A very attractive and substantial recreation building was constructed in 1934 with Federal aid. Located in the center of the park near the shore of the lake, this building houses the office of the Department and is the center of all activities.

On January 1, 1936, under the authority of the State Statutes, a Recreation Commission consisting of three citizens was appointed and all recreational functions were placed under its jurisdiction. The maintenance and care of park property was also placed under its supervision with the exception of the trees and shrubbery, flower beds, and walks, which continued under the care of the Shade Tree Commission.

From about 1933 to 1940 the Recreation Department had the assistance at most times of two or three recreation leaders furnished by the WPA without cost to the Township, making operation of the Department on a lower budget possible during that period. Toward the close of 1940 this aid was discontinued.

Today the park and all recreation activities come under the supervision of the Recreation Commission consisting of three citizens appointed for three year terms by the Chairman of the Township Committee. To effect the necessary coordination between functions of the Board of Education, the Shade Tree Commission and the Township Committee, the Commission as a rule is made up of one member from each of these groups.

One of the most important functions of the Millburn Recreation Department is the afterschool playground leadership which it furnishes in co-

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Mrs. Francis J. Torrance

THE NATIONAL RECREATION movement has lost a great friend in the death of Mrs. Francis J. Torrance of Sewickley, Pennsylvania, who died at her home in January after a long illness.

For twenty-five years Mrs. Torrance believed in, cared for, and worked for the National Recreation Association. Those who came to know her were always deeply impressed with the enthusiasm and spirit with which she entered into the work of the Association and what was being done for children and adults in communities throughout the country. The range of her interest was wide. Nothing provincial or purely local entered into her consideration of what was being planned.

Mrs. Torrance with rare vision saw the important place contributors have in the recreation movement. She gave regularly and generously herself and helped to get others to give. She earnestly wanted others to share in the pleasure of giving which she enjoyed. She was ready also to help finance special projects. She believed in leadership. "Personality is more important than brick and mortar," she said. She read reports eagerly and took great pleasure in seeing progress being made. In the face of difficulties her faith was always that problems would be met.

She always wanted to meet and talk directly with staff workers who were carrying on the work. She always sent them away with renewed spirit.

Workers and leaders in children's institutions all over America will remember with gratitude the service rendered through the Francis J. Torrance Memorial Field Secretary for Play in Institutions, a service established by Mrs. Torrance in memory of her husband who had had a special interest in orphans, cripples, the aged and others who had to live in institutions. The utter lack of recreational activities in many such institutions at that time led her to finance and start that service.

Mrs. Torrance was very happy in thinking of her daughter and grandchildren becoming interested in the work of the Association. She rejoiced that her daughter, Mrs. Horace F. Baker, and her son-in-law, Horace F. Baker, a prominent lawyer and a leading citizen of Pittsburgh, serve as sponsors of the Association. She looked forward to the time when her grandchildren would be ready to help and work for the Association.

The recreation movement is stronger and richer in spirit because of the twenty-five years of service and generosity of Mrs. Francis J. Torrance.

All in the National Recreation Association think of this friend, contributor, and Honorary Member with gratitude and affection.

Full Speed Ahead in Dallas!

By LILLIAN SCHWERTZ
Supervisor
Playgrounds and Community Centers
Dallas, Texas, Park Board

KEEPING IN MIND the recreational interests of all age groups, the Park and Recreation Department of Dallas, Texas, is going full speed ahead with its plans for a well-rounded playground program this summer.

For the playground children there'll be handcraft, art classes, Joseph Lee Playday, plays, boys' and girls' clubs, athletic tournaments, swimming and junior lifesaving classes, team competition, golf and tennis classes, and many other activities.

The older folks, too, will be a part of the playground program with activities for adults including games and sports, art classes, and assistance in planning recreation at home for the family. Because of transportation restrictions, emphasis will be on local community programs and participation rather than on city-wide events.

Arts and Crafts

The handcraft program will include making posters, beach shoes, novelty pins, games, sand modeling, seed craft, crepe paper and spool weaving, clay modeling, nature scrapbooks, finger painting, art classes, puppetry, papier-mâché craft, belts, buttons, basket weaving, and holiday crafts. A local playground craft exhibit will be held the last two weeks of the summer with a city-wide craft exhibit at the annual Elephant's Birthday Party which is always the climax of the summer playground program and usually attracts about 4,000 children. Each playground will be responsible for twenty craft articles to be used as prizes at the bingo game table which is one of the most popular attractions at the annual Joseph Lee Playday.

A special activity for the summer will be the outdoor sketching and art classes on the playground conducted by the art supervisors who will also give illustrated story hours, using both chalk sketches and doll and puppet characters enacting the story on a small portable theater.

Playdays!

Joseph's Lee's favorite games, contests, tournaments, outdoor square dancing, social dancing, bingo and band concerts are part of the Joseph Lee Playday program which is always attended by almost 4,000 children. The presentation of the dramatic program and the singing of Joseph Lee's favorite songs come during the grand finale.

Weekly playdays will be scheduled at Fair Park Civic Center and amusement park with four or five playground groups participating each week. Visits to the Aquarium, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Natural History, and the Historical Museum with guides accompanying each group will be included in the day's program along with swimming, picnicking, free rides on the ferris wheel, merry-go-round, rides on live ponies, and free tickets to other amusement concessions.

Drama and Music

The annual Junior One Act Play tournament will be held in the outdoor amphitheater at one of the parks. For the past two years the winning plays in the tournament were presented again at Joseph Lee Playday. However, this year an operetta is being planned—written and composed by a member of the recreation staff.

In music, the outstanding song leaders in Dallas have always given many hours of volunteer service conducting community sings and it is expected that they will continue to do so this summer. The Federation of Women's Music Clubs and the Fifth Ferrying Command Band have also conducted musical programs on the playgrounds as part of community night programs.

Clubs for boys and girls are organized at each playground with simple parliamentary laws being taught as part of the activity. Each playground is required to have one club for boys and one for girls.

Swimming

Plans are under way for an extensive "Learn to Swim" program to be conducted at the thirty junior swimming pools. There are two qualified Red Cross swimming instructors on the summer supervisory staff who teach swimming and conduct junior lifesaving classes. Local swimming meets are held at the junior pools with local champions competing in the city-wide meet which is put on at one of the larger municipal pools.

Daily swimming with an hour each for girls and boys is part of the planned playground program. An average daily attendance at these junior pools is 115 boys and girls. In addition to the swimming hours, wading periods, with the pools drained to a depth of eighteen inches, are conducted for children under seven years of age. Local water pageants and regattas will be stressed this summer instead of the city-wide water pageant that has been held in the past.

Sports of All Kinds

Local tournaments in horseshoes, croquet, paddle tennis, shuffleboard, and volley ball will be part of the regular program with the customary city-wide competition being eliminated.

Interpark competition will be conducted in softball and junior hard ball. The champions from the districts will play for the city championships in the following divisions: Midgets—boys under 12 years of age; Juniors — boys under 14 years of age; Seniors—boys under 16 years of age; and Girls—under 18 years of age. The average number of teams in these four divisions is around 140 and a junior baseball league is conducted for older boys who do not care for the softball program. For the past two seasons some of the games for night play were scheduled on the lighted hard ball and softball diamonds.

Last summer tennis clubs were organized and tennis classes were conducted at five of the parks. This activity was enthusiastically received by beginners interested in learning to play tennis and many newcomers entered the city-wide municipal junior tournament as a result of these classes.

Free golf classes for girls and boys at the two municipal golf courses were introduced last season as an emergency measure to provide recreation for the teen-agers after the infantile paralysis epidemic necessitated the closing of all swimming pools and playgrounds. However, it is doubtful that this same service will be offered again this summer.

For Adults

Activities for adults include volley ball, tennis, horseshoes, croquet, roque, outdoor sketching and art classes, and participation in community night programs. Mothers and fathers were used as volunteers on the playgrounds although with a large percentage of adults now working in war industries, there will probably not be much volunteer service this summer.

Under the instruction of a year-round art supervisor, classes for adults as well as children are held at the community centers. The women's art classes serve as a hobby outlet for many housewives and mothers, and last year there were over 100 paintings on display at the Southwest Recreation Conference held in Dallas. Last August through the cooperation of the Museum of Fine Arts an exhibit of adult work was shown with a committee of local artists acting as judges. Five thousand persons visited this exhibit, and future exhibits of paintings of both children and adults will be held at the Museum.

Realizing the need of assistance for mothers in planning home recreation activities due to the in-

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You begin your baseball training at an early age, if you live in Dallas!

Courtesy Dallas Morning News

Print by Gedge Harmon

It's Fun to Play Safe

Whether on the playground or at a picnic in the park, you'll be happier if you remember to play safe!

By LORETTA GALVIN
Recreation Staff
Board of Park Commissioners
Minneapolis, Minnesota

TEACHING through play is not a new technique, but it is one which is being applied to an ever-widening field of activities. One of these has been the playground safety club program sponsored for the past three years by the Recreation Department of the Minneapolis Park Board on the city playgrounds.

Safety measures and accident prevention have been taught for years by the time-honored method of "do" and "don't" on the basis of personal appeal. In our program the attempt has been made to minimize the negative side of accident prevention and build up the positive approach through the introduction of competition in the practice of safety methods, and by dramatizing the conditions under which accidents are likely to occur, in this way instilling in each club member a sense of personal responsibility for developing safety habits.

Safety aid clubs are organized on each playground. Any boy or girl twelve years of age or under, who wishes to become an aid, signs a membership card and takes the safety pledge of his or her playground. As each playground has its own particular safety hazard, these pledges differ. A lake in a playground, for example, means a water hazard; accordingly, on this playground special emphasis is placed on water safety. Playgrounds near busy highways present traffic hazards, so children are taught the safe way of crossing streets in going to the play areas. The safety aid not only helps the younger children to reach the playground safely, but he becomes a good example for all the children by himself obeying the laws of safety.

Weekly meetings are held on every playground. The meetings are conducted by the safety aid officers, and the playground leaders, who are always present, serve merely as advisors. The aids determine their own methods for advancement. Some of the playgrounds base their organization on Army procedure, others on Navy methods. For example, after a boy or girl becomes a safety aid, he or she must serve an apprenticeship before advancing to the rank of corporal or first class seaman. A first class safety aid may wear a badge; then, by earning merits, he can eventually become a general or admiral. There is only one commanding officer, who acts as president of the club and who has a staff of officers from the administrative groups of aids. This group decides the policies of the aids.

Merits are usually awarded for the following:

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Mississippi—A Table Game from Quebec

By STANLEY ROUGH
Recreation Director
Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd.
Arvida, Province of Quebec

THE GAME OF MISSISSIPPI is played in nearly all the French Canadian colleges in the Province of Quebec although, for no apparent reason, it had never been played outside of the schools. When we introduced it here to adults it was an immediate success—so much so that now there are four games at the Recreation Center with additional games built for the recreation halls in the Company's camps.

Costing about fifty dollars to build, Mississippi is more popular here than shuffleboard, table tennis, and the dozens of table games on the market. The upkeep is very slight, and the game can be set up and taken down quickly. All in all, digging Mississippi out of college basements has been a major discovery as far as an indoor game for adults in this Province is concerned.

By way of equipment, a game board, 15′ x 2′, mounted on trestles 28 inches high, is needed. The playing surface, 12′ x 2′, should be made of hardwood flooring and kept well waxed. The box-like contraption in each end of the game is to catch the disks and is usually 1½ feet, but can be cut down to 6 inches. The ends are padded to prevent the disks from flying around—on the same principle as the canvas or leather pads in bowling alleys. Leather is desirable for padding as it wears better. The wood should be sanded down to eliminate the possibility of splinters. The disks, or shooters, are made of hard wood 2⅞ inches in diameter by 1 inch thick, and are painted black and white.

Singles or doubles can be played in Mississippi. To start the game, the players toss for the first chance and then take turn about in shooting. Each player has four disks. The object of the game is to get as many of the disks near the end of the board as possible. Players must stand behind the end board to shoot. Disks cannot be thrown but must be slid along the surface, and those which are knocked into the end of the boxes do not count.

After each player has finished his four shots one point is counted for each of the winning disks. If any part of a disk is over the edge of the playing surface it counts three points. Game is eleven or twenty-one points.

NOTE: It is suggested that anyone wishing more information about this game write Mr. Rough.

OPENING SEPT. 26
SATURDAY BASEBALL LEAGUE FOR BOYS 15 YEARS AND YOUNGER
JUST REMEMBER, BOYS, ALL GREAT RULERS OF THE BASEBALL ROOST STARTED YOUNG LIKE YOURSELVES.
S. F. RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Courtesy Call Bulletin
San Francisco

Stars of Yesterday

Although only a few of the boys taking part in the "Stars of Yesterday" program will ever reach the heights of baseball, each of them will later treasure the experience he had in youth of having played, as an American boy, the great American game

WHAT CHANCE do our younger boys have to play hard ball? What do they know about the game? Is their knowledge and experience merely a "sport sheet" matter, or is the great national game actually theirs from experience? Have they come to their rightful heritage through actually playing the game?

As an answer to this question, the Milwaukee Municipal Recreation Department early in the spring of 1936 launched a "kids'" hard ball program on a large scale. The name given the league was "Stars of Yesterday," and it was for boys under 15 years of age. Each team was named after a former Milwaukee Brewer ball player. Such former heroes as Stoney McGlynn, George McBride, Ken Keltner, and many others were honored. Commercialism was kept entirely out of the program. Used balls were donated by the president of the Milwaukee Baseball Club; catchers' masks were given by the Umpires' Association. Sporting goods houses lent a hand by giving the league odds and ends. To top it off, a city-wide search of attics and long unopened trunks furnished more valuable equipment. More than fifty teams enrolled the first year and the number has gradually increased with a new record of eighty-five teams playing this past season.

Stars of Yesterday games are played Saturday mornings in several sections of the city, thus eliminating long trips all over the city. Competent umpires are assigned by the Municipal Athletic Office. Winners of the various sectional leagues meet in an elimination tournament to decide a north and south divisional winner. These two finalists play at the Milwaukee ball park under "big league" conditions with uniforms, loud speaker system, electric scoreboard, and with President Bendinger of the Milwaukee Baseball Club tossing the first ball, and American Association umpires "calling 'em."

All the boys need to play in the league is a dollar forfeit fee with which to enter their team. This fee is returned to the boys if they complete the season without forfeiting. All catchers' equipment and balls are furnished, and, in addition, Midget teams are given the use of bats. The boys furnish only fielder's mitts.

A Baseball School

A year after the Stars of Yesterday league was organized, the Recreation Department sponsored its first "kids" baseball school. Bunny Brief, former Brewer and Association star, was the coach for the youngsters the first year, holding classes on several playgrounds during the entire baseball season. Boys between the ages of 10 and 17 years were eligible to attend the special courses. The following year Bunny was given an opportunity to get back into professional baseball as the manager of the Wausau Club. To replace him, a home town product, Jack Kloza, ex-big leaguer and Brewer, was appointed. "Professor" Kloza began his promotional work before the start of the season, appearing at various schools, churches, and clubs throughout the city with an illustrated baseball talk. During the season Kloza conducted the regular baseball classes much on the original order. Both years that Kloza has headed the school his attendance has run over 6,500 at the lectures, and

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The Fifth Freedom

By HELEN G. SOMMER
Washington, D. C.

We go behind the scenes at the National Folk Festival and meet the people who are preserving our folklore and fighting for freedom of cultural expression

TO THE FOUR FREEDOMS there might well be added a fifth—Freedom of Cultural Expression as every person may conceive it.

In nothing is this more concretely demonstrated than in a presentation of folk dances, music and similar lore, and this you will see at its best in the Eleventh Annual Festival to be sponsored by the Evening Bulletin Folk Association in the historic Academy of Music in Philadelphia, May 10-13, inclusive.

To the spectators this will be a smoothly-moving, well-ordered, and colorful sequence of events, producing a cross section of the native cultural folk expressions of our country and those brought from foreign shores. Even more than that, it will be a revelation to all those "with ears to hear and eyes to see," of a rich heritage which should be preserved at all costs — even to be fought for if necessary. Moreover those "down front" will find it a thrilling way in which to learn authentic facts about the cultural expressions of the people of our country of every section, national strain, race and color.

But those working "backstage" to bring about this panorama of folk culture are given a closer perspective. They come to know the performers as people, and the camaraderie developed there is carried over to the stage — although in a less boisterous form.

An Alice-in-Wonderland Journey

A first excursion into this behind-the-scenes panorama is much like Alice's magic trip down the famous rabbit hole. For there one sees people who until that moment of meeting were characters vaguely familiar through the medium of school books, mostly history. Here, through a benevolent providence, plus the added effort of a large group of folklore specialists, one comes face to face with

The Ukrainian Dancers from Cleveland, Ohio, thrill the audience with their performance

real Indians, right off the reservation, or picturesque ballad singers from the famous Ozark region. Once this phenomenon has been witnessed, it will always be the treasured souvenir of a happy time, come what may to crowd it from memory.

On opening day you walk through the stage entrance, getting a thrill from the pass you carry, possibly your first, and the badge so bravely pinned to your lapel. There's always the chance, you tell yourself, that some naive person will mistake you for a participant and ask for your autograph! Take that in your stride, it's nothing to what you are headed for! Your introduction to performers begins as you round a corner and find yourself part of a crowd watching some dozen Indians in full war paint and regalia, who, to the rhythmic beat of tom-toms, are rehearsing the beautiful Hunters Dance. Standing around them in wide-eyed amazement is a group of Kentucky hill folk — one old man clutching his guitar and gently swaying to the beat of the music; another, his fiddle forgotten for the moment, watches completely lost in admiration and wonder.

You hurry on—your watch tells you it is perilously close to curtain time and there are so many last minute details for which you've assumed responsibility. At the door your progress is stopped by two handsome cowboys here for the festival to give a faithful reproduction of their famous Anson Cowboys' Christmas Ball. At present, however, they are more concerned with trying to master some steps from a Morris Dance being taught them by an enthusiastic group of English Folk Dancers from the School of Organic Education in Fairhope, Alabama. The cowhands get their high-heeled boots and spurs tangled, but they're persistent and you feel certain that eventually the dance will be roped and tied to their mutual satisfaction, for such concentration deserves a reward!

You are about to mount the stairs when over in a corner you see an old fiddler, totally oblivious to his surroundings, "going to town" on his fiddle to the strains of "Old Zip Coon," much to the delight of some Negro children. Whenever he pauses they shout for more.

Managing it by great effort of will, you proceed upward. Gaining the top of the stairs a peculiarly haunting melody is wafted though the door of a room to your left, stopping you on the spot—and by this time your main purpose for being in a rush seems to have become pushed into the background! You softly advance toward the door, following the melody. Your curiosity definitely aroused, you peek around the corner and see a group of Negroes clustered around a seated figure with head thrown back and eyes closed, strumming a guitar accompaniment to their barely audible rendition of that old spiritual, "Ezekiel Saw de Wheel." You drink in the enchanting melody as it pours from those dusky throats in soft mellow cadences, and at its close ask for more. As they begin, "Listen to de Lambs," you, too, begin to hum with them, for you feel the all-pervading spirit of peace evoked by these old harmonies. The sincerity of this tremendous exhibition of folk traditions is brought home to you with such force you want to go right out and tell everyone about the importance of keeping these expressions alive!

Many years ago, when the day's work was done, the older folk would tell the younger generation the weird tales of gods and men, of ghosts and fairies and animals, which they had heard their own fathers tell. They sang the stirring songs of battle and the mournful ballads which had been handed down from a remote past. Mothers crooned to babies lullabies almost as old as the human race.

When the harvest had been gathered in, or when the magic fingers of spring were awakening the flowers from their sleep, groups of young men and maidens danced the strange dances that others before them had danced for untold centuries. Even today, all over the world, these ancient tales and songs and dances still live — our folklore.

Because They Work Together

These people who participate have a feeling of responsibility and oneness with the director, leaders, and sponsors toward making each performance the best. Although they work without remuneration, each does all within reason to make it as entertaining and instructive as possible. They don't mind answering the many questions strangers are constantly asking about their music, the part of the country they are from, why they dress as they do when they sing their songs and dance their square dances. Once their confidence is won, they will treat you as one of themselves. They'll even give you an unscheduled performance without too much coaxing, right on the spot.

A better understanding results between people from the far corners of our country thus meeting and playing together. The Easterners are amazed

that the Indian's main object in life is somewhat like their own; that his prime concern is not to see how many scalps he can acquire for his belt! Should he by any chance be sporting a tomahawk, it will only be used as a prop to give his dance the proper atmosphere. The Indian, in turn, will find his white brother willing and ready to be friendly.

Some people are amazed to learn a cowboy's life does not entirely consist of roping and branding steers or chasing cattle rustlers. You'll discover hill folk from Tennessee, the Carolinas and Kentucky who *do* venture forth from the confines of their cabins without the proverbial shotgun or little brown jug. The city folk discover a certain poise and sophistication in their hill cousins that is usually glimpsed only in the finished concert artists with whom they are familiar.

Montreal sends the French Canadian Singers with their delightful songs

Toward the end of the festival one begins to sort out and classify certain outstanding impressions, and one of these high spots—a most significant one which impresses itself indelibly upon the mind—is the eagerness with which group meets group, some for the first time and others renewing old friendships formed at previous festivals. Their ancient heritage has given them a common meeting ground, their music a universal medium of exchange, and they feel a kinship which only comes through long years of association. Their cooperation back stage is something that makes you feel all men are, indeed, brothers, and it gives a warm feeling of belonging. You forget that your feet hurt, that there is no more aspirin for the head which seems about to burst, and that in excitement you skipped lunch! Whatever task has been placed before these folks they've performed, and in between times they've kept up drooping spirits with a running fire of song and dance. People who can sing and dance so constantly are definitely happy. They don't have to tell you—you just know.

If you've a minute to spare and can find an unoccupied corner and stand apart, you realize America is passing in review. Such contemplation, however, proves difficult when your hands are full of notes, your mind is going over last minute program changes, and you're answering the thousand and one inquiries from participants. Who can compete with an orchestra rehearsing "Money Musk" on one side, the strains of "Barbara Allen" coming from another direction, and here and there, snatches of fiddle tunes from groups as they come off stage and others wait to go on?

All this change of color, shifting movement and music is not disordered but seems to be unifiedly working toward a definite goal. It isn't a confusion of sound, as one might imagine, rather a unisonant symphony—which is America united—as we are privileged to know our country.

Folklore—a Part of Themselves

The beauty of the festival lies in the fact of its simplicity. The natural spontaneousness of the dances, the rendition of ballads which these performers achieve, could never be equalled by the most celebrated artist. Their performances are so much a part of themselves and their everyday lives they do not think twice about what they are doing. You see them as they appear in the fields, their kitchens, and with their children, at everyday, homey tasks, as they sing these lovely melodies and tell their tall stories and legends. Their dances

are faithful replicas of the way they spend their community evenings together when the day's work is over. These people have not recently acquired these tunes, dances, and legends; they are merely the continuation of the things they've been doing for generations in their communities all their lives, wherever their pioneering spirit has led them, and they do all of them for their own enjoyment and satisfaction. They have roots back in the past centuries, and they come from them as simply and naturally as they draw the breath of life.

Folklore evolves from the desire to retain something of a former existence and ofttimes happier life. Listen to the lonely cowboy songs; there is the scent of sagebrush — a vista of wide windswept prairie, and once again you visualize pioneers with all their worldly possessions piled within a covered wagon forging ahead, building as they go for future generations. Forced, many times, to give up home and friends, they pushed farther on into wilderness seeking space, safety, freedom, and the many things necessary to the happy wholesome life they wish for their families. The dust bowl families found it necessary, because of economic pressure, to give up everything to seek greener fields; the Mormon was obliged to go further into the wilderness of an unknown land to find the freedom he desired to worship according to the dictates of his conscience. Always, along the way, was the need to forget for a few minutes the ever-present grim reality of the business of establishing a home. What better escape than through song and a lively dance tune? There were times when an occasion demanded recognition; to keep the incident fresh in their lives a song grew around it and was thereafter handed down from generation to generation.

An Association Which Preserves Folklore

Forming an organization to preserve these songs, dances, and legends was a stupendous and sometimes thankless task—but to one person, ten years ago, came the vision of great numbers of people clamoring for understanding, and articulate as to the need to preserve their heritage. Because they loved to sing the songs, perform their native dances, and recount legends of their forebears, the first folk festival was held in St. Louis in 1934. As a result of that first festival, and because of the need for preserving these vital folk expressions, the National Folk Festival Association was formed. At its head stands Sarah Gertrude Knott, Founder and Director, outstanding folklore specialist, without whose vision we would not be witnessing such a great spectacle each year as the Folk Festival. That it continues each year is due to the effort she has expended; that it is staged and publicized with such dignity is due to the wisdom and ability of the business manager, Major M. J. Pickering, who has been with the Association since its infancy.

Though only eleven years old, the National Folk Festival has made its mark and we feel will continue the good work as it grows. Some of the traditions it presents this year have forever disappeared from the native soil which knew them. The transplanting has been attended with such care that already they flourish within our borders. Let us preserve the heritage entrusted to us.

NOTE: Those of our readers who have not become acquainted with the National Folk Festival will wish to know that it is being sponsored this year by the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, and that anyone who wishes may attend. A small admission is charged to help meet the expenses of putting on the program.

The festival will have particular significance this year in view of the fact that the Overseas Branch of the OWI is interested in making recordings of the folk songs and instrumental music on the program to transmit over the radio to European countries. The OWI is also interested in sending to Europe publicity and pictures which will show how foreign-born groups in this country are preserving their folklore, and how such events as the Folk Festival are helping to unify all nationalities living in the United States.

In addition to the program of the festival, there will be a small handcraft exhibit in the foyer of the Academy where the festival will be held. It will be made up chiefly of the handcrafts of the groups taking part in the program.

The Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin,* which is sponsoring the festival for the second year, is publishing a new booklet on community folk festival plans prepared by the Festival Association. It will include a comprehensive bibliography and a "search-for-material" division. Further information about the booklet and the festival in general may be secured from the headquarters of the Association at 621 Bulletin Building, Filbert and Juniper Streets, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

What's Happening on the West Coast?

By FLORENCE WILLIAMS
USO Consultant on Health and Recreation
for the National Board, Y.W.C.A.

"WATER and oil won't mix" is what people said about the sailors and aircraft workers who had suddenly descended upon their Southern California beach town. The USO director was about to agree with them after trying in vain to pull the two groups together, when she hit upon the idea of a recreational cooperative.

It caught on immediately. A planning group of forty young men and women, mostly aircraft workers and technicians, drew up a constitution, a board of directors was elected, and shares sold rapidly to industrial workers at fifty cents each. Servicemen and women received theirs free. The possession of a share entitled one to voting privileges and the right to help plan and carry out interesting and diverting activities.

The "Co-op," as it is affectionately labeled, has attracted members rapidly. A special clubroom in the USO was found and decorated where sailors, soldiers, marines, WACs, WAVES, and SPARS now mingle with workers in all sorts of activity. The workers have purchased table tennis equipment and victrola records for this room. The Co-op has had picnics and beach suppers, attended the theater in large groups and has had great success with square dancing, special parties and forums. No longer do these young men and women feel like outsiders or members of rival groups, for now they plan and work together. Started primarily as a way in which workers in the great new war plants could plan their own recreation and *pay for it themselves,* the Co-op has attracted the military as well, although big dances and other activities were already being carried on for the military in the USO clubs.

The rise of such organized groups containing members whose interests might be supposed to differ widely is a war phenomenon on the West Coast. To that coast of high mountains, blue ocean, hot deserts, primeval forests and sophisticated cities has been added a new kind of boomtown jammed with today's forty-niners—the war production worker and the serviceman and woman.

As for the workers—they are not only new to the community, but masses of them are completely new to industrial work itself. Tens of thousands of them are women, single women and married women, the latter often the mothers of growing families. This fact in itself poses new problems both social and economic.

The work week is longer now and the pace on the job is faster and more tiring. Rotating shifts add to fatigue. Women workers are harassed by wearying efforts to do the family wash or get it done, to fix the plumbing or find a plumber, to do the marketing or stand in line in a cafeteria.

Some communities could adapt themselves quickly to the demands and urgent needs of their new residents. Others could not. The prewar size of the town had something to do with

The members of the "Industrial Co-op" of the USO Club of Santa Monica have voted bicycle picnics a very popular activity

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No one can dance all the time, and so these war workers at a barn dance at South Tacoma take time out for a rest

that. What were ordinarily single rooms in San Francisco now rent as doubles or even four-person dormitories, but in Bremerton, Washington, workers lived at first in chicken coops. Movie houses in San Diego may be jam-packed; in Hermiston, Oregon, there were *no* movies. Restaurants in Los Angeles were crowded; in Vallejo girls had to walk two miles for a meal.

Leaders of the short-time, emergency recreation program that was needed knew very little about the recreational preferences or cultural interests of the forty-two million workers and the ten to fifteen million uniformed men and women in our nation.

Three Years Ago

Troops here today are gone tomorrow or at least by next month. War production workers here tonight change shifts next week. There is nothing static and nothing predictable but change itself. Yet in spite of these handicaps we have made headway. Three years ago when the USO was young, leaders were sent into towns where military and war production pressures were new and little understood calamities. Once arrived, those leaders had to organize committees, recruit and train volunteers. Oftentimes there was no building and little or no equipment. Those early leaders had to interpret USO to the community, assure local agencies that they wanted to supplement, not duplicate, existing activities and, on top of all that, there was the ever-constant pressure to get programs started — fast!

So started it was, in tents, in empty store rooms, whenever and wherever there was space. What that program would develop into, how our transient participants could be brought in on planning and carrying out that program were questions none of us could answer. Principles, trends and learnings were as difficult to grasp as quicksilver, and like that metal, the program was constantly changing its form.

The Picture Changes

That was three years ago. Now we have buildings and equipment, the support of military officials, the Federal Security Agency, defense recreation councils, plant and labor leaders. Local agencies and private citizens, as well as our own participants, have all cooperated, and USO program has taken a more tangible though still ever-changing form. It is dependent, among other things, upon the type of community and the new residents whom we serve.

In communities where there are large numbers of military and swarms of industrial workers, USO clubs often must give service and provide recreation for both groups. Local citizens, hospitable to the boys in uniform, sometimes resent the war workers. Lack of understanding of each other by all three groups fosters ill will and lowers morale.

Many things have been tried to promote good will within such communities. The Wilmington, California, club—Wilmington is part of the Los Angeles harbor area where 100,000 men and women work in the shipyards and many thousands of Army, Navy and Coast Guard men are stationed—tried to solve the problem by the formation of a joint council representing military and industrial newcomers. Lecture discussion groups

with topics varying from art and music to current events and family relations, as well as sports and photography classes have been started. The twelve council members include two soldiers, a SPAR, a coast guard, two WACs, and seven war workers. This group publishes a monthly paper called *The Bond* to symbolize the relationship between our fighting forces and the workers who make the planes, ships and guns they use. The paper includes news articles, a gossip column, an editorial and section on program plans.

Another project fostered by the Wilmington club to promote understanding between the military, the industrial workers, and the community was the production of a musical revue entitled "We're Doing All We Can," put on by a cast of forty industrial and ten military. It was presented first as a "thank you" to the community from the USO, and on a second night for the amusement of the military and war workers. It played to capacity audiences. As requests poured in for further showings it was staged at other USOs in the area. Out of this production has also grown something more permanent — a large choral group and a dramatic club.

Another interpretation of the part that war production is playing in the war effort took the form of a pageant in the Navy Day program of a shipbuilding town. This pageant highlighted a day of community celebration that included a radio program, a parade, and a tea at the USO for wives and mothers of Navy men, with WAVES and SPARS as special guests.

The pageant told "The Story of the Battleship Indiana," depicting the contribution of industry in all sections of the country to the construction of a great battleship. The theme pointed up the fact that the men who contribute to such construction—farmers, miners, engineers, carpenters, welders and riveters; white men, black men, yellow and red men—are Americans all. Such community programs have proved to us that understanding and good will develop naturally when joint councils get people planning and working together.

Activities Go On!

Program councils composed of soldiers and junior hostesses are proving their worth in military clubs across the country, too. What if the men do come and go? Some always remain and the girls can carry on if there is even a complete turnover at the near-by camp. The Carmel, California, council, challenged by an unplanned Friday night at its USO club, thought up the "Barn Door Canteen." Now every Friday night the walls of the recreation rooms are hung with saddles, bridles, horseshoes, and serapes. Coffee and doughnuts are served on two long tables covered with red and white checked oilcloth. Five baby kids frolicking in an impromptu corral rigged up around the big, old fireplace drew a lot of delighted attention. A box of chickens atop the bookcase, and a baby bull in a netting cage lend even more

Beach parties rank high in the program of the "Industrial Co-op" organized by the aircraft workers of Santa Monica

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local color. Lanterns shed a soft light over this barnyard scene.

The Snack Bar is transformed into a forty-niner bar with animal skins and heads decorating the walls. A parrot hanging from the ceiling looks over the situation.

A small place called the Angel's Roost is set aside for civilians. The price of admission to this Roost is two dozen doughnuts. Upon arrival the civilian guests are presented with white caps and halos to wear while they watch the floor show. In front of the Roost is a sign saying: "Please don't annoy the Angels." About nine o'clock the dancing is stopped and the men and girls get a cup of coffee and doughnuts, and as many as possible seat themselves at the tables. The rest sit on the floor to watch the floor show. The entertainment has a definite Western flavor. One night the theme is Indian, and another night it may be Spanish. At first servicemen presented one or two acts only, but now they and the hostesses put on the entire show.

On the night of the grand opening a street parade was led by men and women in Western costumes on horseback. Two soldiers took the part of Ferdinand the Bull. The paraders were greeted in front of the building by a hillbilly band. As they passed inside, the director, dressed in Western costume, invited them to park their guns and firearms.

In all USO clubs there is a growing interest in music. In Inglewood, California, where there are three large airplane factories, a chorus of forty women organized themselves as the Vivandieres. The women in the chorus are all members of the Inglewood chapter of the Aircraft Women's Club which is made up of wives of aircraft workers and women who themselves make planes.

The story of this club goes back two years. People by the thousands were pouring into California in answer to the call for workers in the huge aircraft plants. During their leisure hours, these workers found themselves with time on their hands and nothing to do. In Inglewood a group of the newcomers decided a club of aircraft wives and workers would help provide fun. So they rang doorbells and carried their message to all the women they could reach.

Now more than 150 women belong to the Inglewood group. They all have a hand at preparing a weekly pot-luck luncheon at the USO. And they take part in tap dancing classes, badminton, bowling, craft work in silver and leather, Red Cross sewing, courses in nutrition and home nursing and, last but not least, they practice for the Vivandieres —the Aircraft Women's Chorus.

The chorus has proved to be one of the most famous activities of the Inglewood club. The Vivandieres were born when one of the aircraft women attended a community sing—then stopped in the USO club to talk over starting a singing group.

From this simple beginning a thing of true artistic achievement has grown. The girls could really sing, it developed, and soon they had professional guidance from a volunteer director who had formerly led well-known choral groups. Before long they were giving noon concerts at the aircraft plants, in churches, and in public meeting places. Sometimes they put on concerts with a men's chorus called the Grenadiers. These men and women work for their supper but sing for their fun!

Art classes and sketch groups have burgeoned in clubs all over the country, thus showing that drawing and painting are vital interests to many servicemen. The professional artist in the armed forces finds an outlet for the creative urge he could encourage in civilian life, and the amateur who tries a drawing for the first time often discovers he can have a whale of a good time even though the results may not amount to much aesthetically. The urge to make things with our hands is in most of us and the routine of camp life brings it to the surface.

Only the Mural Is Static!

This interest in creative things has taken a particularly happy turn in one club. In the game room, a 50-foot mural on the wall good-naturedly gibes at military life and recreation in a USO club. A soldier gives the eye to a pretty girl, a barber shop quartet sings beside a rickety piano, a sleepy sailor can't be awakened by his girl, and a tough one with a broken nose does a bit of jitterbug with a blonde. There are also WACs and marines, industrial workers and hostesses and a footsore rookie—all the diverse people found in a USO club.

The mural is the work of many soldier-artists. The art group, started more than a year ago when a soldier lamented to the club director that there was no place to keep up his art work, has grown from a mere handful to a large class of hard working artists. A local artist and art teacher became interested in the work of the group and

soon gave his Sundays plus one or two nights a week to direct and encourage them. From his talks on various phases of art the idea of the mural was born. The soldiers made more than a thousand sketches, using USO visitors for models, before final selections were made. A typical soldier face, a pair of pretty legs, the set of a cap, a girl from the ordnance plant in a work uniform — all were excellent material. The group has been in constant flux as men are transferred from camp to camp and overseas. Old ones go and new ones come, but the mural retains remarkable homogeneity as the newcomers daub their brushes on their palettes—continuing where the others left off.

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Junior hostesses go by Army truck to entertain barrage balloon crews who must remain at their station twenty-four hours a day

The Mobile Service

There is interesting variety to the entertainment — social and cultural — that is provided in USO clubs. Under the romantic name of the Sun and Sand Caravan, busloads of junior hostesses from Los Angeles or one of thirty near-by towns in southern California go rolling out into the desert each week end to bring a welcome change to the thousands of soldiers stationed in the desert maneuver area for final training before shipment overseas.

Such caravan operations are a part of USO Mobile Service. They stretch from Palm Springs, California, to Yuma, Arizona, and from Las Vegas, Nevada, to the Mexican border. The girls go wherever the Army wants them. Sometimes it may be to a remote air base, or to entertain soldiers in Torney Hospital at a party sponsored by the Red Cross, or perhaps to a desert USO club in a community too small to have enough of its own junior hostesses. The trip is hot and uncomfortable as the girls jounce along the desert mile after mile in blowing sand and temperatures that sometimes reach 140°, but at the end of the ride the most appreciative hosts in the world are on hand to receive them.

These are the servicemen who for weeks have been isolated from everything but Army life. They have been living on iron rations, sleeping in foxholes and enduring the heat and dust of the desert under conditions that simulate as closely as possible those of actual battle, even to the use of live ammunition. As their training nears completion they are usually permitted a little relaxation and it is here that the Caravan girls come in. The men make careful preparations for their guests and are delighted when they arrive.

Dancing and swimming, conversation and sports, more dancing and more swimming, or church and a long walk or bicycle ride, food from a field kitchen and a few hours sleep on a G.I. cot are the usual routine of the hostesses on these week-end trips. Most of them are business girls but, like the soldiers they entertain, they are a pretty good cross section of any community: college girls and swing shifters, white collar workers and riveters.

(Continued on page 50)

"They're in the Navy Now!"

LIEUT. COMDR. ARTHUR T. NOREN has made available to RECREATION a list of officers in the Recreation and Welfare Service of the U. S. Navy recruited from the ranks of individuals who were trained for, or have served in, the public recreation movement. Thirty-one of these officers are former local recreation superintendents. Twenty-two are graduates of the National Recreation School.

The ranks of the officers are as of the time the list was prepared and there may, of course, have been a number of promotions since.

There may be others who should be added to the list. If you know of any, kindly report them to us so that our list may be as complete and accurate as possible.

Name	*Formerly Served with*
Lieut. M. G. Ackerman	Chicago Park System
Lieut. (jg) Roy A. Armstrong	Seattle, Wash., Park Department
†Lieut. (jg) F. W. Athay	Newark, N. J., Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) Ernest Barbieri	California Assistant State Supervisor, WPA Recreation
Lieut. (jg) James W. Barton	National Staff, WPA Recreation
*Lieut. E. R. Bowman	Superintendent of Recreation, El Paso, Texas
†Lieut. Larry L. Brennan	
Ens. Malcolm Bridges	
*Lieut. (jg) William E. Capps	Los Angeles Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) C. A. Cason	Chicago Park Department
*Lieut. Comdr. Paul Cleland	Union County, N. J., Park Department
*Lieut. William M. Collins	Chicago Park Department
Lieut. (jg) Samuel Ed. Cooperman	Allentown, Pa., Recreation Department
Ens. Stephen M. Corbett	Detroit Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) Richard P. Corrigan	Recreation Department, FSA
*†Lieut. Comdr. Charles B. Cranford	Westchester County, N. Y., Recreation Department
Lieut. F. D. Crosby	Baltimore Recreation Department
Lieut. Hugh N. Dangremond	Virginia State WPA Recreation
*Lieut. Comdr. Charles W. Davis	Berkeley, Calif., Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) A. J. DeJulio	Chicago Park Department
Lieut. (jg) Harold V. Doheny	New Haven, Conn., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Herbert Donovan	WPA Recreation
Ens. E. A. Dorow	West Allis, Wis., Recreation Department
†Lieut. Allen T. Edmunds	National Park Service
*†Lieut. Harry Foss Edwards	
Lieut. (jg) John James Ferguson	New York State Park Commission
†Lieut. Homer W. Fish	Wheeling, West Va., Park Commission
Lieut. (jg) Thomas W. Fisher	Eugene, Ore., Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) Raymond T. Forsberg	Recreation Department, FSA
Lieut. (jg) William Frederickson, Jr.	Los Angeles Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Paul Gilbert Gay	San Francisco Recreation Department
Ens. Meyer Goodman	Richmond, Va., Recreation Department
Ens. F. V. Gustafson	Recreation Department, FSA
Lieut. (jg) Clyde Americ Hadley	Los Angeles Recreation Department
*†Lieut. John L. Harne	Atlanta, Ga., Recreation Department
Lieut. Thomas J. Harrison	Los Angeles Recreation Department
*Lieut. Archie Hayden Hecht	Milwaukee Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Quenton K. Hartke	Recreation Department, FSA
Lieut. Alfred Nash Higgins	Tampa, Fla., Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) F. S. Hughes	WPA Recreation Department, Washington
*†Lieut. (jg) Karl Johanboeke	St. Louis Recreation Council
*Lieut. (jg) Corliss L. Jones	National Staff, WPA Recreation
Lieut. Daniel H. Jones	Charles, S.C., Recreation Department
Ens. William F. Keller	Springfield, Ohio, Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Jesse K. Kennedy	Madison, Wis., Recreation Department
*Lieut. Comdr. Raymond S. Kimball	San Francisco Recreation Department

* Overseas service

† Graduate of National Recreation School

Name	*Formerly Served with*
Lieut. Edward T. King	New York City Park Department
†Lieut. Arthur J. Kirkpatrick	
Lieut. (jg) Victor A. Kormeier	Dallas, Texas, Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) John Kosnar	Chicago Park Department
*Lieut. (jg) Frank M. Krysiak	Linden, N. J., Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) Walter Kuch	Union County, N. J., Park Commission
*Lieut. (jg) John Edward Leary, Jr.	Newtonville, Mass., Recreation Department
Ens. Robert E. Link	New York City Park Department
Ens. Edwin R. Logan	Alameda, Calif., Recreation Department
*Lieut. Melvin G. Lundstedt	Lynn, Mass., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Rodney E. Luscomb	San Diego, Calif., Recreation Department
Lieut. James G. Mangan	Sacramento, Calif., Recreation Department
Lieut. Comdr. F. S. Mathewson	Union County, N. J., Park Commission
Lieut. (jg) William J. McNeil	Chicago Park Department
Lieut. (jg) Edward A. McDevitt	San Francisco Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) James D. McKinley	Recreation Department, FSA
Lieut. (jg) Maynard R. McLean	Chicago Park District
Lieut. Myles H. MacMillan	West Haven, Conn., Recreation Department
Ens. Robert McClain Maher	WPA Recreation, Ohio
*Lieut. Comdr. Nathan Mallison	Jacksonville, Fla., Recreation Department
Ens. Frederick Martin	New Britain, Conn., Recreation Department
Ens. W. R. Masik	Wisconsin Recreation Department
Lieut. N. R. Meglathery	Tuckahoe, N. Y., Recreation Department
*†Lieut. Earle E. Moll	
*Lieut. (jg) Harold G. Myron	Highland Park, Mich., Recreation Department
Lieut. Harold S. Morgan	Milwaukee Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) S. L. Moyer	Reading, Pa., Recreation Department
*†Lieut. Robert K. Murray	Dayton, Ohio, Recreation Department
Ens. Charles A. Murdaugh	Wisconsin Recreation Department
Lieut. J. D. Murphy	Chicago Park System
Lieut. William W. Morison	Oakland, Calif., Recreation Department
†Lieut. D. R. Neal	Greensboro, N. C., Recreation Department
*†Lieut. (jg) Martin M. Nading, Jr.	WPA Recreation, Virginia
†Lieut. Milton Foss Narum	Northampton, Mass., Park Department
*Lieut. Comdr. C. P. L. Nicholls	Los Angeles Recreation Department
*†Lieut. Comdr. Arthur T. Noren	Elizabeth, N. J., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) John O'Reilly	Boston, Mass., WPA Recreation
Lieut. (jg) Louis A. Orsatti	Los Angeles Recreation Department
Lieut. John C. O'Malley	Fitchburg, Mass., Recreation Department
†Lieut. Edgar R. Overton	Recreation Department, FSA
*Lieut. Clayton Perrault	Florida State Park Department
Ens. Butler Perryman	Tyler, Texas, Park Department
Ens. Jack Puryear	St. Petersburg, Fla., Recreation Department
†Lieut. Harry Atwood Reynolds	
*Lieut. Joseph Francis Riley, Jr.	Auburn, N. Y., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Lester R. Roberts	
Ens. William G. Riordan	Monroe, Mich., Recreation Department
Lieut. Thomas H. Rickman, Jr.	National Staff, WPA
†Lieut. Carl H. Schmitt	Delaware County, Pa., Park Department
*Lieut. I. M. R. Schultz	Bethlehem, Pa., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Beverly S. Sheffield	Dallas, Texas, Recreation Department
Ens. William H. Shumard	
†Lieut. (jg) Charles Kenneth Smith	
Lieut. (jg) David L. Smith	Los Angeles Recreation Department
*Lieut. B. A. Solbraa	Racine, Wis., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) Allan J. Sullivan	San Francisco, Calif., Recreation Commission
Lieut. G. F. Skinner	National Housing Authority
Lieut. Willard B. Stone	N. Y. State Supervisor of Recreation, WPA
Lieut. (jg) Wm. H. Sutherland	Chicago Park System
Lieut. Comdr. W. D. Thompson	
*Lieut. C. L. Varner	Orlando, Fla., Recreation Department
*Lieut. (jg) Lee Beverly Wade	Oakland, Calif., Recreation Department
Ens. Joseph Francis Walker	Elizabeth, N. J., Recreation Department
*Lieut. Robert Starr Wattles	Jacksonville, Fla., Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) John Richard Wells	Colorado State WPA
†Lieut. J. E. Whitford	Lafayette, La., Recreation Department
Lieut. W. P. Witt	Corpus Christi, Texas, Recreation Department
*Lieut. Comdr. Stanley Witter	Spokane, Wash., Park Department
Lieut. (jg) Joseph Ed. Wood	Montclair, N. J., Recreation Department
†Lieut. (jg) Clark L. Fredrikson	National Recreation Association
†Lieut. Comdr. James A. Garrison	Austin, Texas, Recreation Department
Lieut. (jg) H. B. Holman	Oakland, Calif., Recreation Department
Lieut. M. C. Huppuch	National Park Service
Lieut. Arthur R. Jarvis	Passaic County, N. J., Park System
Lieut. (jg) Frederick C. Stewart	Norfolk, Va., Recreation Department

* Overseas service
† Graduate of National Recreation School

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

ANIMALS. "Wild Animals of the Rockies—Adventures of a Forest Ranger," by William Marshall Rush. Illustrated. 296 pp. Harper & Brothers, New York.

"Animal Tracks," by George F. Mason. 95 pp. $1.50. William Morrow, New York. Pocket-size. Footprints of forty-four mammals.

Bird Sanctuary. Arcadia Sanctuary, Northampton, Massachusetts, has passed from private ownership to the Massachusetts Audubon Society and will be in memory of Robert Searle Chafee. West of the oxbow of the Connecticut River, it is on an important migratory route. Over 200 species have been listed at the sanctuary including egrets and at times 400 wood ducks. Located at the center of four colleges, it will certainly provide a haven for students eager to become acquainted with feathered friends.

"Coast Guard Ahoy," by Philip Harkins. $2.00. Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York. Story for younger boys.

"Conservation Education in Rural Schools." National Education Association, Department of Rural Education. Yearbook 1943. 130 pp. 50 cents per copy. Washington, D. C.

Dog Calendar. The American Humane Association, 135 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York, 1944 Holiday Greeting Calendar. 10 cents. The calendar features different dogs and cats for each month. The Massachusetts Life Insurance Company, Springfield, Massachusetts, has a very attractive calendar with dogs featured.

Dogs. "Shep: A Collie of the Old West," by Thomas C. Hinkle. $2.00. William Morrow, New York. A fine story for children below teen age.

Fishpond. "Techniques of Fishpond Management," by Lawrence V. Compton. 22 pp. Illustrated. 10 cents. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

Fishing. "Coverts and Casts: Field Sports and Angling in Words and Pictures," by William J. Schaldach. 138 pp. Illustrated. $5.00. A. S. Barnes, New York.

Forest Fires. "Burning an Empire," by Stewart H. Holbrook. $2.50. Macmillan Company, New York.

Forests. "Paul Bunyan's Quiz," or 225 questions and answers about the forest. An excellent, illustrated booklet, free. American Forest Products Industries, Incorporated, 1319 18th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Meat, Game. "Save Game Meat—It is Valuable," by D. Irvin Rasmussen and Marvin D. Wilde. 5 pp. Wildlife leaflet 246. Free. Supply limited. Chicago, Illinois, Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

"Naturalist at Large," by Dr. Thomas Barbour. 314 pp. 24 pages of photographic illustrations. $3.50. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

Nature Recreation. "Along Nature's Highway," by Carroll Lane Fenton. $1.25. John Day Company, New York.

Nature Recreation at the USO. Convalescents wounded in the Aleutians find fishing for 32-inch rainbow trout, sightseeing trips, and visits to glaciers good ways to recover strength and good spirits at the USO Club, Anchorage, Alaska.

Photography. "Photography for Rural Young People," a 73-page booklet prepared especially for farm boys and girls. Instructions for taking good pictures, developing and printing. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York.

"Poultry Keeping, Backyard," by G. T. Klein. $1.50. Everybody's Publishing Company, Hanover, Pennsylvania.

"Races of Mankind." 32 pp. 10 cents. Public Affairs Committee, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York.

Science Careers. "Careers for Girls in Science and Engineering," by Evelyn Steele. 189 pp. Illustrated. $2.50. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York.

Shopwork. "Farm Mechanics in the School." Bulletin No. 31A. 28 pp. South Bend Lathe Works, South Bend, Indiana. Shop layout plan, course outline suggestions, etc.

Trapping. "Starbuck Valley Winter," by Roderick L. Haig-Brown. $2.00. William Morrow, New York. Good story of life in the wilds of British Columbia—for Scout age.

WORLD AT PLAY

Junior Playground Councils

THE Annual Report of the Long Beach Recreation Commission July 1, 1942, through June 30, 1943, states that Playground Councils have been in successful operation for three years. The chairmen of the groups are selected from among regular patrons at each area to assist the director in building and carrying on the program giving special attention to program coordination, boys' and girls' activities, safety, playground supplies, athletics, community relations, records and publicity. The Chairman of Program Coordination acts as Chairman of the Council when meetings are held and the Chairman of Records serves as Secretary. Although the function of these junior Chairmen is cooperative with the area director, the policy is to permit the greatest possible freedom of action, to encourage initiative, and to gain youth acceptance of responsibility through shared planning.

Print by Gedge Harmon

Otto T. Mallery

OTTO T. MALLERY'S book, *Economic Union and Durable Peace,* has had many favorable reviews and is now being published in Spanish. The book has already gone to many parts of the world. For forty years Otto T. Mallery has been active in the recreation movement in Philadelphia and for thirty-two years has been a member of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association and has been an active leader at the Recreation Congress gatherings.

Football Training Saved His Life

LIEUT. TOM HARMON, Michigan All-America football player, credited his football training with having saved his life in airplane crashes in South America and China, according to a recent Associated Press story. "If I didn't play football," he said, "I wouldn't be here; I wouldn't have survived the first crash. Those who say football has no part in our soldiers' training programs should have their heads examined."

Onondaga Forests Provide Recreation Site

IN 1930 Onondaga County, New York, secured more than 2,000,000 trees free of charge from the State tree nurseries, and planted them on 2,200 acres of abandoned farmland. These trees are growing in value and it is estimated that the forest will be valued at least at $200,000 for its timber alone in a few more years. Meanwhile a lovely glen and native timber stand of hardwoods have been developed around an old abandoned farmhouse as a picnic and recreational area. These community forests are contributing a very important part in supplying the timber requirements of the country as well as outdoor recreation. The Onondaga County Park and Regional Planning Board has supervision of this area and is planning to expand the forest from time to time as there are many areas available for purchase and reforestation.

Recreation Agency Wins Publicity Award

A RICHMOND, Virginia, daily newspaper recently called attention, editorially, to the annual award of the Morris Plan Bank's "Silver Bowl," presented to the Richmond War and Community Fund Agency which best interpreted its activities to the public. This year the winner was the Colored Recreation Association with the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts as runners-up in the contest. This Association has had the cooperation and assistance of the field services of the National Recreation Association in its initial organization and since World War I.

Soldier Showmen

IN ADDITION to sending entertainment into Army camps, Hollywood has taken on the job of teaching the tricks of the show business trade to soldier showmen who

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produce entertainment within the camps. The work was started at an Army Special Service conference held in Atlanta, Georgia, last November. Brian Aherne headed the seminar on acting; L. Wolfe Gilbert conducted the song writing panel; George Jessel discussed master of ceremony technique; Arch Oboler taught radio production; and Conrad Thibault helped the singers. A similar conference was scheduled in Salt Lake City for Special Service Officers of the Ninth Service Command.

Training Institutes—The Institute on Programs for Adolescents in War Time which will precede the regular summer sessions to be given on recreation and group work at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, is particularly timely. There will be three courses—The Psychology of Adolescence; Program Making with Adolescents; and Community Organization to Meet the Needs of Adolescents.

Also of interest at this time will be the Seminar on Inter-Racial and Inter-Cultural Problems in connection with recreation and group activities which will be conducted at the same time as the Institute on Programs for Adolescents in War Time. Further information is available from the Admission Office, School of Applied Social Sciences, Western Reserve University, Cleveland 6, Ohio.

Russia Acts to Curb Delinquency — Soviet Russia, in an effort to stamp out juvenile wartime delinquency, has announced a program of greater attention to education, and has clamped down on the country's movie-attending youngsters. A decree forbids children under sixteen years of age from attending movies during school days without special permission from the authorities. When permission is granted, the children must be accompanied by approved teachers or adult school leaders, and scholastic records, conduct, and home work will be taken into consideration.—From *The New York Times,* February 5, 1944.

Stay at Home Vacations in Detroit—"Stay at Home Vacations in Detroit" is the title of an attractive, illustrated circular issued last summer by the Detroit Department of Parks and Recreation. It tells of the activities offered, lists the parks and golf courses and gives general information regarding children's games and similar facilities.

A New Playground for Union Springs—The Lions Club of Union Springs, Alabama, took the lead in establishing a playground in their city. The Club secured from the city a plot of ground which has a number of good shade trees in it. They organized a movement to equip the land as a playground and donated $100 from their activity fund to get the work started. There were a number of swings and slides on the school grounds which were in bad condition. These were handed over to the Club and members repaired them. Various organizations each agreed to furnish one piece of equipment, and the Garden Club assumed the responsibility for beautifying the grounds. The city of Union Springs through its Council has directed the Street Department to keep the grounds clean and supplied a play leader during the summer months.

Drama Week at Cedar Crest College—The week of January 17-22, 1944, was celebrated as Drama Week at Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania, where special emphasis is being placed upon speech and dramatic art in a rehabilitation course in Community Drama. In addition to the lectures, six one-act plays were given in the

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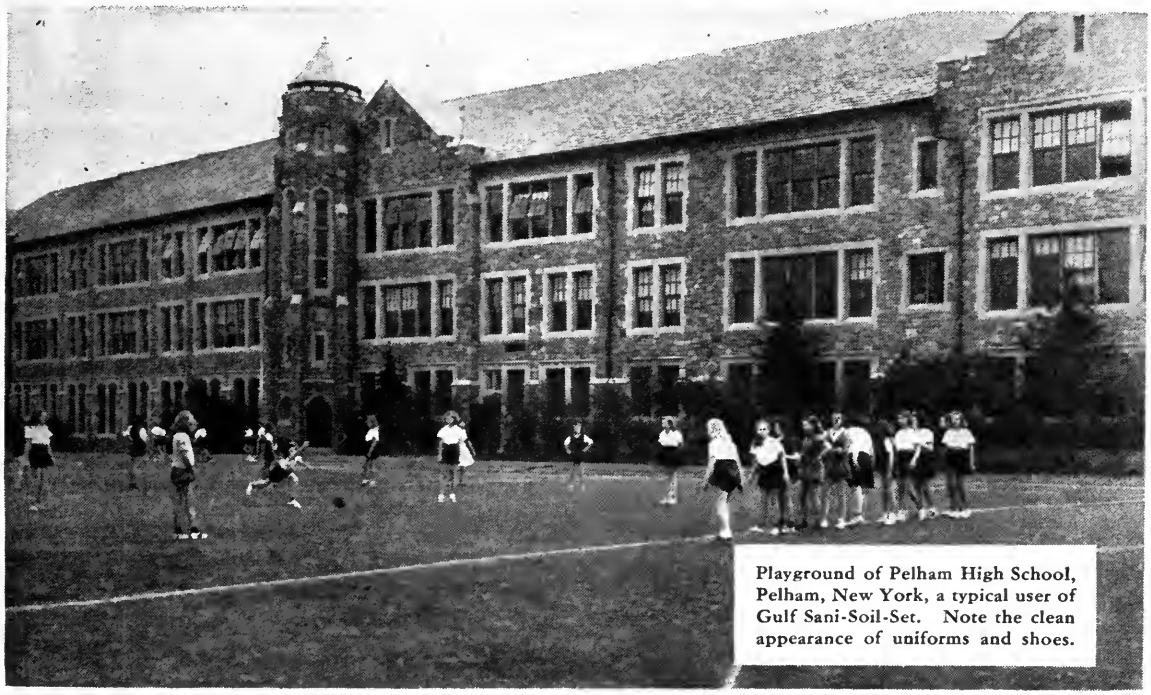

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first local play tournament, and two poems were presented by the verse speaking choir of the College. On the final day of the week an exhibit of stage designs and models was given in the college drama studio.

Skating Rinks in St. Paul—The Department of Parks, Playgrounds and Public Buildings of St. Paul, Minnesota, is operating thirty-five skating rinks this winter. A number of additional rinks are being provided by various local organizations in neighborhoods in which the Department cannot finance such facilities. In one neighborhood a public-spirited resident is providing funds for the program and personnel.

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Circulars and Table of Contents on Request

PORTER SARGENT, 11 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass.

They Do Their Part—Children at the Armstrong Playground, Lynchburg, Virginia, which serves Negro boys and girls, have for some time been carrying on a tin can salvage drive on their own initiative. On clear days they gather tin cans in their homes and turn them over to the playground directors. On rainy days the children meet in the director's home where they cut off tops and bottoms of cans, remove labels, flatten them, and have them in readiness to be gathered up and added to the city's collection.

Horseshoe Courts for Teaneck—In an effort to serve the people where they are, the Park Department and City Manager of Teaneck, New Jersey, have set up a number of simple horseshoe courts throughout the city. In one section, a high speed highway splits the town, and the apartment houses and dwellings which flank the overpass are far from any park or playground. Now the city has built a court at the edge of the parkway on either side of the highway. Courts have also been put in neighborhood vacant lots, in front of billboards, and wherever groups of citizens have asked for opportunities to pitch horseshoes.

Eugene, Oregon, Uses Its School Buildings—The school buildings in Eugene, Oregon, are beehives of activity at night, all day Saturday, and every day during vacation periods. Young people are interested in craft work in the shops, and dances for boys and girls from junior high school age up are frequent attractions. Gymnasiums are in constant use and are supervised by trained leaders of the municipal Recreation Commission of which Florence D. Alden is director. Recently, in conjunction with the P.T.A., the Recreation Commission planned a series of home parties for the children instead of having community-wide affairs. As a special project students at the University of Oregon made up suggested programs which were sent to parents through the P.T.A.—From *Recreation Bulletin,* Office of Community War Service.

Roller Skating in Raleigh—Roller skating in street blocks in five different sections of Raleigh, North Carolina, including the Negro centers, is one of the activities promoted by the Raleigh Recreation Department.

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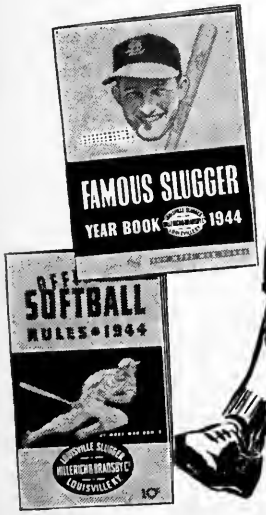

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Stars of Yesterday

(Continued from page 30)

close to 11,000 at the outdoor classes. The course covers a ten-week period.

The Milwaukee Municipal Recreation system knows that its Municipal Baseball School has meant much to the boys of Milwaukee, and is very confident that it will mean much to the future of hard ball. Some of the young Stars of Yesterday show promise of becoming Stars of Tomorrow. There may be, as a result of the season's work, some fine contributions to America's ball fields, but there certainly will be thousands of intelligent, enthusiastic spectators in the grandstands and bleachers in years to come, supporting and promoting the great American game they learned to know and love during their youth in Milwaukee's Baseball School.

NOTE: This article was submitted by John Zussman, Acting Director of Municipal Athletics, Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Anna Louise Johnson

FOR MANY YEARS Anna Louise Johnson gave all that she had of energy and enthusiasm and power to the development of the community recreation program in Denver, Colorado. She was always a loyal friend of the National Recreation Association. Her sympathy, her understanding, her kindliness endeared her to a very large circle of friends. She died in Colorado on February 23.

Full Speed Ahead in Dallas!

(Continued from page 27)

fantile paralysis epidemic last summer in Dallas which kept children at home, the Recreation Department undertook two radio programs a week over the municipal radio station: one morning program for mothers about new approaches in planning home and backyard recreation for the entire family; and an afternoon "Let's Have Fun" children's program which featured games, stunts and stories.

Tentative arrangements are now being made with the radio station to sponsor a hobby show this summer with the Recreation Department. A series of interviews are being arranged to cover a period of approximately six weeks, at the end of which time a hobby show for both children and adults will be held in a museum at Fair Park.

It's Fun to Play Safe

(Continued from page 28)

(1) service hours; (2) tests; (3) new members; (4) attendance at meetings; (5) conducting discussions on safety; (6) special study of safety problems. If any aid violates the rules of safety, the commanding officer and his staff hear his case and have the power to deprive him of his merits if he is found guilty.

Considerable leeway is allowed as to the types of activities in which each group participates, although the work of all groups is coordinated with that of the National Safety Council through representation on the recreation section of the local council.

At the weekly meetings problems of safety are discussed, the approach always being from the positive point of view. If some accident is occurring repeatedly on the playground, special attention is given it. Often, if it is a play accident, a sandbox demonstration to the aids will show the

right way to play in order to avoid the accident. A safety log is kept on every playground accident, and this record is closely studied by the aids at their meetings. Every effort is made to find the cause of the accident and prevent its repetition.

Seasonal bulletins are issued to the aids. These usually contain slogans, suggested projects, and hints on how to enjoy seasonal activities without accidents.

The safety aids are most helpful to the playground leader, forming as they do a very dependable service group. Through their club work they are developing team work, and they are happy in knowing that they are contributing to the war effort. For each accident prevented means less strain on parents and overworked doctors.

Making safety a personal responsibility will pay dividends!

How Recreation Grew in Millburn

(Continued from page 24)

operation with the physical education department of the schools.

In addition, it conducts many activities not available in the schools and also continues its full program during the summer months when the schools are closed. Many of the youth of Millburn do not get out of town during the summer and the program fills a vital need during this period. Here the Department puts much emphasis on activities which will carry over into later life.

Last summer Millburn playgrounds, using the theme "Scrap for Victory," carried out a successful scrap drive and held War Stamp and Bond sales every week. When enough money was raised to buy a "jeep," all the playground children received a ride in one at a near-by Army camp.

A self-government plan was introduced at all the playgrounds in the 1943 season. Children elected their own officials — mayor, police chief, fire chief, clean-up group, and discipline court. Under this plan they participated in field days, art shows, trips, picnics, amateur shows, baby parades, doll shows, pet shows, and movie shows. Playground children also offered their services to local organizations at picnics, fun nights, celebrations, and anniversaries. Then, too, they provided entertainment for servicemen's baseball and softball teams after games with local teams.

Adult groups were organized in all sections of the town for evening play periods. Under the supervision of a specialist provided by the Recreation Department, they conducted their own programs.

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Recent years have witnessed a tremendous growth of interest in winter sports of all kinds. However, the limited facilities for skating in the park are inadequate, and although various sizable ponds in the Township are now widely used by the public for winter sports, all are privately owned and may not be available for public use much longer. The Department is now investigating possibilities of acquiring some additional area where skating and hockey can be more fully enjoyed.

The athletic field in connection with the Glenwood School and the newly constructed playfield in the Wyoming area are valuable additions to the recreation facilities of the Township. The Department feels they will pay dividends in improved health, better sportsmanship and the wholesome enjoyment of leisure time.

The work of the Recreation Department, which has grown from activities on a small plot of ground to a full-sized community service, cannot be measured in miles of new roads, police arrests or fire alarms answered, but the citizens of Millburn believe that it is helping very substantially to improve health, provide a better use of leisure time, and effect decreased delinquency among youth — in brief, that it is building better citizens.

What's Happening on the West Coast?

(Continued from page 39)

And they all give not only their time but a part of their expenses as well.

Many Negro troops are stationed in the desert. Caravan loads of junior hostesses have been organized to visit them. Not long ago a group of these youngsters drove 300 miles into the desert to help entertain the soldiers of Camp Clipper. The men, pleased that the girls would travel so far to see them, loaded their guests with the best gifts the post exchange affords. So the story will not seem too one-sided, the girls frequently arrive with homemade cakes and cookies as well as other presents for the men.

Although they are too young to know the hardships of roadshow company life, these girls become good troupers after they join the Sun and Sand Caravan. Outnumbered four or six to one, they have gay smiles and a willing ear for the talkers, apt banter for the more reticent, and, finally—holes in their slippers from miles of dancing! They have staunch admiration for these men, too, and they are always ready for another dance or another joke with those unsung warriors who know most of the grief and none of the glory of their brothers overseas.

As danger of invasion fades barrage balloons are disappearing, but still a handful soar along the West coastline and along Long Island, bobbing gently in the wind and looking for all the world like big gentle Dumbos. Although soft and docile looking, they are not quite so simple as they seem. They require a crew to keep watch over them twenty-four hours a day — a crew that may be moored anywhere from a lonely mountain top to somebody's backyards; a crew that must sleep and eat and fuss and worry with its gigantic baby so that her hydrogen is maintained at exactly the right pressure for with too much she would explode and with too little, collapse. Wind velocity is watched as carefully as an infant's diet and cable lines must be checked constantly.

These air-borne babies are as scientifically cared for as all babies should be, and the crew that watches over them becomes pretty fond of their charges. Still the job is a lonely and monotonous one, like many other detached service chores. So at the request of the Army a solution was worked out. A soldier likes girls and girls like soldiers; if the mountain couldn't come to Mohammet, Mohammet would go to the mountain.

Army trucks stop regularly at USO clubs, pick up groups of girls and take them to the balloon sites. When the truck arrives at the site, word goes out: "The girls are here!" One by one the soldiers start drifting in—but casually, as if the presence of girls were one of those inconsequential things that happens every day. Many of the servicemen are shy; a pretended boredom is a good defense. They live in tents, so space is too small for dancing. The girls, therefore, must be full of life and quite socially adept in order to keep things moving. After a few trips to the balloon sites they are able to get games and fun started with astonishing assurance.

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This American flyer was a basketball player at college. In this great American competitive game he trained his eyes to see accurately. He developed timing and coordination—the ability to duck and dodge and "shoot" baskets with amazing precision. Now this skill—this accurate timing and precision shooting—is helping him to bag Zeros in the blue skies above the far South Pacific.

Basketball and other American sports are making an all-time record for America's athletes in this war—athletes who with relatively few months war training are matching the best the enemy can give after a life devoted to war training. Long live America's sports and games. Wilson Sporting Goods Co., Chicago, New York and other leading cities.

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Songs are sung around the pot-bellied stove, and food brought by the girls is eaten. The boys like to take the girls out to see Dumbo and explain all her intricacies. Proving what good troupers they are, the girls look as wide-eyed and wondering on each visit as they did the first time barrage balloons were explained to them by some other crew!

NOTE: This is the second of the series of three articles prepared by Miss Williams.

Some Wartime Programs for Girls

(Continued from page 23)

developed a military setup in its activity program for girls which includes all the women's services. Girls may choose to become Junior WAVES, Junior WAFS, Junior Motor Corps, Junior Red Cross, Junior WACs, or Junior SPARS. The organizations are quite military in character and each has a motto, song and pledge. The WACs, WAFS, WAVES, and SPARS all drill with an older girl or the captain in charge. They have officers for a one month period — Captain, Sergeant, two Corporals, and of course Privates (by election). They have a demerit system imposed by the girls themselves, and inspection by an officers of hair, faces and hands.

The programs of the different corps are left to the girls' own choice and are varied. The WAVES keep a scrapbook telling of the life of a real WAVE. Their service is the preparation of a box to be sent a soldier once a month. To choose the soldier, names of relatives or friends are put into a box and the third name drawn is the lucky man. Not more than 35 cents can be spent on the package, and the girls contribute what they want to. A scrapbook of "thank you" letters from the men is the prize property of the corps.

The Junior WAFS also send packages to soldiers. They make scrapbooks for service hospitals, stuff toys for the Red Cross, and they knit.

The special service of the Junior WACs is contributing to the March of Dimes fund or the Neediest Christmas families. This group has chosen square dancing as its recreation.

The SPARS are serving by making scrapbooks of "funnies" and crossword puzzles for servicemen in hospitals. They mount the puzzles on cardboard and attach an oilcloth fold for a pencil.

The Motor Corps mans the telephone during the hours the center is open each week and marks a card record which is kept for the merit system with name, date, time and weather.

From twelve to twenty girls are in a unit, and ages vary from 9 to 15.

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Municipally Planned Recreation for Adolescents in War Time, F. Edward Biertuempfel

Parents' Magazine, March 1944
How I Organized a Play Group, Eleanor Stewart
What They Want Is Fun, Helen Buckler

Public Management, February 1944
Postwar Planning for Recreation, Arthur M. Williams

School Activities, February 1944
Birth of a Nature Study Club, Willetta R. LaRoe

Sports Age, February 1944
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PAMPHLETS

Bibliography on Industrial Music. December 1943
Personnel Planning and Research Department. RCA Victor Division, Radio Corporation of America, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City

Boys and Girls Together, Margaret Shuffler and George B. Corwin
The Womans Press, New York City

Here's How You Can Help Redevelop Your City with Modern Highways
For copies of this publication address F. Stuart Fitzpatrick, secretary, Conference Committee on Urban Problems, 1615 H. Street, N. W., Washington 5, D. C.

Informal Games for Soldiers. War Department Technical Manual, TM 21-221
For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Price 15 cents

Jumblegrams, Florence Boynton Watson
Webb Book Publishing Company, 55 East Tenth Street, St. Paul 2, Minnesota. Price 25 cents

Looking for Gremlins in Girl Reserve Clubs, Virginia W. Lewis
The Womans Press, New York City

Quality Control in City Building, Hugo Leipziger
Reprinted from the *Journal of Architecture, Engineering and Industry,* Vol. 6, January 1944, College of Engineering, University of Texas, Austin, Texas

Study of City-Wide Recreation Possibilities for Topeka, Kansas, 1938-1943
Civilian Defense Council, Topeka, Kansas

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Music on Summer Playgrounds

(Continued from page 20)

Canada, Poland, Mexico, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Belgium, Netherlands, France, China, Russia and the United States.

Midway through the program, the festivities were interrupted by the entrance of a gaudily-garbed peddler, wheeling a large globe which he tried to sell to the children. They refused to accept the globe in its present darkened condition but later, when the globe was "lighted" by the beautiful music made by the children, they willingly accepted it in its shining state. Thus this common understanding and cooperation achieved through the harmony of music was vividly demonstrated and acclaimed by an appreciative audience of four thousand!

Nor did this musical enthusiasm diminish, for many days after the music festival the singers could be heard joyfully repeating these special songs and teaching them to their playmates. Thus the summer theme took hold and spread with increased impetus through the eagerness and vim of the youthful talented songsters!

In retrospect, the success of music on summer playgrounds was due mainly to the happy combination of a simple activity, requiring few materials and truly emphasizing "play for play's sake," with the basic theory that "the child comes first" in exploiting any channels for its utilization. The intrinsic values to be gained in pleasant, informal musical activities should not be overlooked or underestimated in recreation programs. Reading's playgrounds have had a bountiful share, and will continue to expand and satisfy their musical needs.

What happens when your hat comes down?

SOMEDAY, the War will be over.

Hats will be tossed into the air all over America on *that* day.

But what about the day after?

No man knows just what's going to happen then. But we know one thing that must *not* happen:

We must *not* have a postwar America fumbling to restore an out-of-gear economy, staggering under a burden of idle factories and idle men, wracked with internal dissension and stricken with poverty and want.

That is why we must buy War Bonds—now.

For every time you buy a Bond, you not only help finance the War. You help to build up a vast reserve of postwar buying power. Buying power that can mean millions of postwar jobs making billions of dollars' worth of postwar goods and a healthy, prosperous, strong America in which there'll be a richer, happier living for every one of us.

To protect your Country, your family, and your job *after* the War—*buy War Bonds now!*

Let's all KEEP BACKING THE ATTACK!

The Treasury Department acknowledges with appreciation the publication of this message by

RECREATION

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

The American Square Dance

By Margot Mayo. Sentinel Books, 112 East 19th St., New York. $.50.

TEN YEARS AGO MISS MAYO founded the American Square Dance Group, and she has for years collected and taught American folk dances. This collection, she points out, is not intended to be a complete treatise on the American folk dance, but is merely an open door to a further appreciation.

The book discusses types of dances, music and instruments, gives hints to callers and suggestions for a square dance evening, and provides a glossary. Music for ten dances is given, and there is a bibliography.

The World's a Stage

Edited by Margaret Mayorga. Samuel French, New York. $2.00.

A COLLECTION of twelve one-act plays designed to give boys and girls the opportunity to participate in theater productions from the era of Greek to modern radio drama. Four of the plays are nonroyalty.

Knots, Splices and Rope Work

By A. Hayatt Verrill. The Norman W. Henley Publishing Company, 17-19 West 45th Street, New York. $1.50.

"KNOTS," SAYS THE AUTHOR, "were presumably invented by prehistoric man at about the time he discovered that trailing vines and fibers served useful purposes, such as keeping his family from falling off the log canoe or tethering the pet sabre-toothed tiger." In its revised form—and the book has been used for many years—it contains directions for knots of all kinds from the simplest variety to involved fancy knots. Splicing, too, is described, and there is a discussion of materials and kinds of rope.

At Ease!

By Jules Leopold. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. $1.75.

THE CONSULTANT and adviser on puzzles and games for *Yank*, the Army weekly, has brought together a collection of puzzles, tricks, stunts, and miscellaneous activities which are designed primarily for the serviceman when he is "at ease." Civilians as well will find this book interesting and amusing.

Builders of Our Nation

By F. Raymond Elms. Albert Whitman and Company, Chicago, Illinois. $2.00.

THE AUTHOR has selected thirty-six men influential in our early history and has presented them both in an authenticated text and in vivid illustrations. History comes to life in this book.

Victor Herbert Songs for Children

Selected and edited by Ella Herbert Bartlett. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. $1.75.

SOME OF VICTOR HERBERT'S finest music was written for children. In addition to the well-known operetta, "Babes in Toyland," there are many delightful songs for children scattered throughout his other works. Ella Herbert Bartlett, his daughter, has collected these charming little songs into one volume which contains what she regards as the twelve best songs of this type from all of her father's work. The songs have been carefully edited and simplified so that children and their relatives and friends can sing them and play the piano accompaniments without necessarily being highly proficient musicians.

Chessboard Magic!

Compiled and annotated by Irving Chernev. *Chess Review*, 250 West 57th Street, New York 19. $2.50.

TO THE CHESS PLAYER, composed endings are an inexhaustible source of entertainment. There are 160 of them in this book arranged not by theme or composers or alphabetically, but in a haphazard way designed to add the element of surprise. Difficult positions have not been included as the book is intended for pure enjoyment, not drudgery.

Fun with Your Child

By Mary A. Mapes. Howell, Soskin, Publishers, Inc., 17 East 45th Street, New York. $2.50.

HERE IS A BOOK of common sense for parents and children. It takes care of the play needs of children inexpensively, and intelligently, covering play for the well child and the sick child, the child who plays alone and the boy and girl who play in groups. Instructions and illustrations show how toys and games are made, and there is factual information for the parent on the significance of play in the child's life.

Dances and Stories of the American Indian

By Bernard S. Mason. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $5.00.

IN WRITING THIS BOOK it has been the author's purpose not only to preserve the dances of the American Indians but to preserve them in action, not merely in printed word, and as dances that we ourselves may use and enjoy. The dances presented were selected for the adaptability to production, authenticity, representation of the various main cultural areas, and an attempt to include as many themes, motifs and types of dances as possible. In addition to the diagrams, there are 27 reproductions of beautiful photographs showing dancers in full costume.

A Shady Hobby.

By Jean Frances Bennett. The Bruce Publishing Company, 540 N. Milwaukee Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. $2.00.

With this title, the book *has* to be about silhouettes! It is for beginners, not commercial artists, and with its delightful illustrations it is a charming as well as a practical and informative volume for all who "will open their eyes to the beauty contained in the world of black and white."

The American Sports Library.

A. S. Barnes & Company, 67 West 44th Street, New York 18.

Official Guides for 1944 available include Swimming, Wrestling, Boxing, Ice Hockey, and Volley Ball. Each Guide is available at 50 cents.

Measuring Municipal Activities.

A Survey of Suggested Criteria for Appraising Administration. By Clarence E. Ridley and Herbert A. Simon. The International City Managers' Association, Chicago. $2.00.

The International City Managers' Association has revised its recommendations for measuring the administrative effectiveness of municipal services. The basic material has not been modified substantially, but a new introduction has been prepared interpreting evaluation processes, commenting on the values and weaknesses of national standards for governmental services, and summarizing progress made in evaluation during the past five years in a number of fields of municipal government service. In the introduction a statement is made that "adequacy is entirely a relative matter: there is no such thing as an adequate administrative service, for higher levels of service can almost always be provided if more funds are available. Likewise, there is no such thing as inadequate service, for inadequacy, too, is relative to the standard the community wants and is willing to pay for."

Is this not an unfortunate statement to be made by a national association of chief executives of municipal government? It is understandable that a community might not appreciate the need of certain services and therefore accepts a meager budget for such services. But it does not necessarily follow that the restricted services provided are adequate just because the locality, generally because of lack of understanding of needs, is currently unwilling to finance a broader service.

The suggestions for measuring existing services of various city departments should prove helpful. The section on recreation recognizes the difficulty of measuring the intangible values of effective service but perhaps it attaches a little too much importance to juvenile delinquency statistics as a measuring rod for the value of local recreation. The volume on the whole should prove helpful to local municipal chief executives and department heads.

Australian Bush Songs.

The Boston Book Music Company, Boston, Mass. $.60.

For the music director who would vary his program with folklore from faraway lands, here are seventeen tribal songs from Australia.

Roller Skating Through the Years.

Edited by Morris Traub. The William-Frederick Press, 313 West 35th Street, New York 1.

Back in the early eighteenth century an anonymous Hollander nailed some large wooden spools to strips of wood attached to his shoes, and with this crude type of roller skate bumped down the pavements and along the roads of Holland. Thus the roller skate was born. The development of the sport over a period of almost two hundred years is a fascinating story which is told by Mr. Traub in this book.

More by Corwin.

By Norman Corwin. Henry Holt and Company, New York. $3.00.

Here are sixteen dramas by a well-known writer for the radio. Each play is accompanied by studio notes. Clifton Fadiman in his introduction points out that the plays are not only playable but readable.

Doubletalk Crossword Puzzles.

Edited by Albert Morehead. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. $1.50.

Few of the 55 crossword puzzles presented in this volume have ever before been published. They represent a new kind of puzzle in that while they are made with the words you already know the definitions are purely "doubletalk." And while they seem to mean one thing they actually mean something entirely different. This adds to the fun!

The Chinese-American Song and Game Book.

Compiled by A. Gertrude Jacobs. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $2.50.

These games and songs were collected by the major physical education students at Yenching University, Peiping, China. With its beautiful pictures, games, songs, and language in both English and Chinese, the book is an unusually fascinating publication.

The illustrations by an unknown and untutored Chinese child artist fourteen years of age constitute a set of drawings which are a real contribution to art.

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600 Billion!

SIX HUNDRED BILLION unthinkable? Yes!

And yet Hitler has cost the world more than half a trillion dollars, more than six million men's lives.

Under compulsion the people of the world, common and uncommon, spend six hundred billion dollars for destruction.

When all this destruction is ended, then there will be need such as never before to make this world attractive to live in, to make our homes rich in opportunities for real family life, to provide comradeship in the neighborhood, to have a full measure of joy in our churches, to make our cities truly beautiful.

There are memories of horror to be forgotten, there are long nights of anxiety, there are days of waiting not longer to be remembered.

Only by making daily life rich and deep and full of a note of victory can old memories be driven out and the eyes turned toward the light of a new day and the will to live and live victoriously be made strong for all — no matter what each man may have seen, what each man may have heard, what each man may have been through.

Of course world anarchy must be ended, a basis for righting wrongs established. But that is not enough, even though it be first.

Surely after victory we — the people of the earth — must find ways of happiness, ways of growth, ways of building whatever gives permanent and enduring satisfaction in the lives of men to make up to the generation that has fought, to the generation of youth, to the generation that is coming into a partially destroyed world, for all of this devastation and wastage.

Leadership had to be given to destruction. Now are we not equally willing to give a little leadership to rebuilding the souls of men, to deepening and trying to make glorious the daily lives of people.

We all are still like children. We want to be happy and strong. It does not take too much to make us happy.

What matters is for us to care — really care about making a world that is fairly warm and comfortable to be lived in, a world of beauty and music and joy.

If we really care — it is not a matter of paying out such billions of dollars as we have paid for destruction, though some money is required. It is a matter of providing a modest amount of leadership right down in the neighborhood to give the people of our country, particularly the people in our corner of it, a chance to do for themselves easily and naturally the things they themselves most want to do.

This making available of leadership for living — community by community—cannot be neglected if we want as quickly as may be to remove the spiritual and mental scars this war will have left.

Recreation land and buildings and facilities are important. But they are not first. In one state alone after the first world war four hundred recreation buildings were built as so-called "living" war memorials. But generally no provision was made for leadership and in five years many of the centers were very little used. Right now cities are planning on spending hundreds of millions of dollars in the postwar period for recreation lands, buildings and facilities.

There must be equally outstanding provision for leadership or to that extent the expenditures will be ineffective.

Better leadership without buildings than buildings without leadership.

There is a new culture waiting to come in America. There is beauty waiting to be seen. There is music waiting to be sung and heard. There is comradeship that leaves rich memories. There are creeks to be skated, rivers to be swum, lakes to be sailed, games and sports to be enjoyed, rich and satisfying living to be discovered if only a very small fraction of what we have been forced to spend for destruction can be set aside for leadership in recreation for bringing joy and strength to us all.

Destruction has been on an unprecedented scale.

May it not be well that building of satisfactory daily living should following this destruction also be on a scale not known before.

Mere existence in a bleak world is no longer enough for any of us.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

MAY 1944

More About Last Summer's Playgrounds

It was impossible to publish in the April issue of RECREATION, the special playground issue, all of the material which you sent us about last summer's playgrounds. So here is additional information regarding activities and administration which we hope will be helpful to you in planning your program.

INCREASINGLY cities are adopting themes for their summer playground programs around which activities along many lines are built. This is proving in many communities a successful method of sustaining the interest of the children in the activities of the playgrounds throughout the summer.

Summer Playground Themes

Thirteen playgrounds of Waterloo, Iowa, carried out the United Nations theme which was adopted in the city last summer. During the playground staff training institute held the week before the playgrounds opened, playground directors and play leaders helped plan the program for the summer.

After the United Nations theme was chosen, nine weekly titles were selected which related to this theme. Throughout the summer there was a variety of activities, including games and sports, crafts, singing, storytelling, dramatics, nature games, movies, war stamp sales and many other activities which were related in one way or another to this general plan.

The season opened with **Good Neighbor Week,** June 14-19, which served as a "get acquainted" time with movies and flag displays part of the program. Sports and Games Week, June 21-26, included baseball games, athletic tests and tournaments of all kinds.

For Music and Dance Week, June 28-July 3, there were musical programs, folk dances, and singing. To give added meaning to Patriotism Week, July 5-9, the flags of the United Nations were flown with the American flag on all thirteen playgrounds. War stamp sales were also part of the week's activities.

Dramatics Week, July 12-17, featured storytelling, talent night, and many plays and skits. During Hobby Week, July 19-24, pet shows, model aircraft exhibits, and hobby shows were held on each playground. Nature treasure hunts, flower arrangement contests, campfires, nature hikes, and leaf identification contests were some of the activities carried out for the Nature Week program, July 26-31.

With the coming of **Crafts Week,** August 1-7, the playgrounds held exhibits of articles made of leather, cork, clay, reeds, paper, and other materials. The final week, August 9-14, was the occasion of neighborhood fun programs, picnics, and tours.

The playground children of Chester, Pa., gave expression to their good will toward neighbors in other lands through their last summer's pageant, "Americans All."

Thus by sending craft articles to the boys in service, by flag-raising ceremonies, by buying war stamps, by patriotic week observances, by keeping fit and healthy through games and sports, and by becoming better informed through stories, discussions and War Information films, Waterloo playgrounds last summer made it possible for the town's boys and girls to share in the united war effort.

One of the highlights in the quest by the playground children to know their United Nations neighbors better was the making of thirteen nations' flags. Each playground during the first week selected the one nation it would represent.

After some discussion of that country, the flag was studied, a scale drawn up, and a three by five flag made by the boys and girls. The result was that thirteen United Nations flags flew with thirteen United States flags on the playgrounds. Many children learned to recognize several flags and all learned at least one other than the United States flag.

In Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania. Each year the summer playground program conducted by the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley is outlined in such a way that all of its activities lead up to the final playground pageant. Songs, dances, and crafts are all related to the general theme.

In 1942 the pageant took the form of a parade of the South American countries, closing with a kind of Mardi gras with dancers, venders and other performers. About 3,000 children took part in this colorful event which won much favorable comment.

In 1943 there were four neighborhood pageants each of which was held on a large open field near or on a central playground where five or six nearby playgrounds gathered. The band and choir made up from children from all the playgrounds provided music for all the pageants. The "Pageant of Flags," as it was called, was very effective, with the children of each playground carrying the flag of the country they represented.

Although the plan of having neighborhood pageants grew out of the wartime restrictions on travel, the Association felt that these neighborhood celebrations were, on the whole, more satisfactory than the plan of having one pageant in a central place.

Decatur's Playground Rodeo. The theme of the all-playground gathering in Decatur, Illinois, last year was the Rodeo. With a bright scarf about the neck, a gay belt or a big hat, boys and girls were transformed into "Deadwood Dick" or "Nell" of the Old West ranch days.

Before leaving their playgrounds for the Nor'-west Bar Ranch (Northwest Playground) where the rodeo was held, the children selected a name for their ranch by which they were identified throughout the day. The midday meal was prepared over the open fire in large iron kettles. The children provided the vegetables for the stew, and each child brought a bowl, spoon, and bread and butter sandwiches.

The program consisted of track and field events, storytelling, singing, and rodeo special events such as horse and rider races, bronco busting, horse and rider ball. The boy and girl most nearly representing a real cowboy and cowgirl reigned as king and queen for the day.

Arts and Crafts

Arts and crafts are a very important part of the recreation program conducted by the Department of Public Recreation in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and careful preparation goes into the planning of the program. Following a period of thorough study of possible materials and projects, the playground directors last summer planned and submitted to the Superintendent of Recreation an eight week craft program. After the plan had been studied a list of craft material necessary for each playground was compiled, and detailed procedures with working drawings were mimeographed in bulletin form. A finished sample of each craft described in the bulletin was made by the supervisor for use in the training institute which preceded the playground season. During the institute the crafts described in the bulletin were demonstrated, and materials were made available for each leader to make samples for his playground. A bulletin was provided for each director for use as reference material. A craft exhibit was held on individual playgrounds, and at the end of the season a city-wide exhibit was set up.

Storytelling

The children's story hour is a new feature of the program being developed by the Department of Public Recreation of Danville, Illinois.

After consultation with parents and grade school teachers, who were heartily in favor of the proposed plan, the Department approached the Danville Public Library and obtained permission to

The Public Library of Danville, Illinois, is cooperating with the Department of Public Recreation in its storytelling program

use as a storytelling center two large rooms in the basement of the building. Here from 4:00 to 5:00 on Thursday afternoon every other week stories are told the children by Mrs. Katherine Randolph, an experienced storyteller who is director of dramatics on the summer playgrounds.

At the first session held early in March there were 400 children; at the second, 493. The Department is now looking about for a larger place in which to hold the sessions.

"This program has meant a lot to our Department," writes Sam Basan, Superintendent of Recreation, "and we have made friends of parents who never before realized there was a recreation department in the city."

Mr. Basan adds: "We are feeling our way and hope to bring into the program puppets and drama by boys and girls, and even movies of children's stories."

The Worklawn Storytellers' League of Berks County, Pennsylvania, last summer volunteered to cover all the playgrounds regularly to tell stories. The Recreation Department furnished transportation for these storytellers, who have also cooperated in the training institute of the County and are themselves training storytellers for the playgrounds.

Lantern Parades

Lantern parades have become a tradition in Decatur, Illinois, not only with the children of the playgrounds but with the townspeople who each year look forward to the event. Last summer the lantern parade and float contest was the ninth to be held.

"The making of lanterns," states the bulletin issued by the Department of Public Recreation, "is not expensive for the results obtained. Scraps of cardboard, boxes, bits of colored paper, old discarded candles, and a few paints are all that are needed. The results in pleasure and beauty far exceed the expenditures of time, effort, and money."

The following suggestions were offered by the Department:

Construction. Fold a piece of paper in eights and cut in on the folded edges; open end and you have an original design. Trace the design on cardboard and cut out.

Pictures of flowers, animals, emblems, etc., may be painted on thin paper and pasted over square or oval openings.

Types of Design

Halloween	Formal design
Christmas	Geometric design
Patriotic	Ships
Animal	Airplanes
Floral	Mother Goose rhymes
Sports	Aquatic
Valentine	Cathedral windows

It was also suggested that in addition to other lanterns each playground make lanterns which spell out the name of the playground and that each have a large brilliantly lighted float at least 2′ x 3′. These floats were constructed in such a way that they would float on Dreamland Lake, where with their lights and the lights arranged around the bank of the lake, a beautiful effect was secured.

Music

One of the outstanding features of the 1943 playground program in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, was the playground band of 50 pieces and chorus of 150 voices. These groups were trained by two regular supervisors of music in the public schools who served on the summer playground staff.

In San Francisco's Sigmund Stern Grove is a beautiful glade about a hundred feet below the street level, sheltered by a thick stand of eucalyptus trees. This natural amphitheater was the scene last summer of a series of fourteen concerts presented by the Sigmund Stern Grove Music Festival Committee under the sponsorship of the San Francisco Recreation Commission. More than 100,000 people attended these concerts. The concert on September 12th, the Ballet Matinee, featured the dance and music groups of the Commission.

A Child Checking Service

One of the wartime activities of the Cleveland, Ohio, Division of Recreation was the child checking station set up last spring as the city's contribution to the Victory Youth Activities Week. This miniature playground, equipped with a tent, a sand pile, table crafts, a slide, a teeter-totter, swings and toy

(Continued on page 103)

There was an attendance of over 100,000 people at the concerts held last summer in Sigmund Stern Grove, San Francisco

Community and Family Nights

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY NIGHTS are assuming greater importance in the recreation program than ever before as communities are coming to realize that one of the causes of juvenile delinquency is lack of adequate family life and the absence of the feeling of "belonging" which is so essential to the child and the adolescent.

Marquette, Michigan, is one of the cities which is doing something about it through the encouragement, under the auspices of the Department of Parks and Recreation, of a monthly Family Night when the family will stay together and enjoy recreation activities. Places of amusement and refreshment in the city are cooperating to the extent of admitting only family groups to their establishment, and some owners of these places are going as far as to close their doors to go home to their own families! Public and private organizations are postponing meetings scheduled on the specified nights in order to cooperate.

It is impossible to measure the results of such a project, but favorable comments indicate that in most cases it is a huge success. It is interesting to learn of the variety of activities which different families carry on. Some go to the movies; others go skating or skiing; some stay home and play games; and some "just read." A few actually have parties, with refreshments and presents as well. Most of the families end their evening with some kind of refreshments which make the occasion a truly festive one.

The Department of Parks and Recreation has issued a list of suggested games and activities for families to use in planning their nights. These suggestions reach the public through the daily paper which is doing much to encourage the project.

The results of Family Night may not be immediate, but ultimately they are certain to prove satisfactory.

Community Nights in Long Beach

"Community Varieties," a successful family night entertainment, was staged last November by the Recreation Commission of Long Beach, California, at the Polytechnic High School Auditorium in that city. This was not the first experience of the Recreation Commission in the field of community stage programs, although it was the first to include the co-sponsorship of another group.

Marquette, Michigan, is sponsoring a series of family nights to encourage families of the city to spend at least one designated night together each month, getting acquainted and enjoying recreation activities. "This does not mean that the family has to stay *at home* as long as they stay *together,*" says Jean Ohman, assistant recreation director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, who describes the project for us.

The Long Beach, California, Recreation Commission is presenting "Community Varieties" as its community night feature, and local talent is making its contribution to the program.

In planning, publicizing, and presenting this program the Commission had the assistance of the Long Beach Junior Chamber of Commerce as co-sponsors.

The program included a violin choir from the Woman's Symphony Orchestra of Long Beach, a boys' glee club from Jordan High School, a fifteen-piece swing band made up of high school boys who play like professionals, a pianist of national reputation who is at present wearing a Coast Guard uniform, singing-sisters numbers, and a dance and baton act. The audience was led in a short session of community singing. Admission was free. The audience showed appreciation of the program by generous applause through which they registered a very definite affirmative vote on the question of making the entertainment a regular event on a monthly basis. The next program was set for a date in January, with December omitted because of the number of long-established holiday entertainment features scheduled.

An important factor in the success of the program was the close cooperation of school and municipal personnel with the co-sponsoring group—cooperation made possible and practicable by the coordinated recreation plan in operation in Long Beach.

The organization set up to carry out the community varieties idea included an executive committee and subcommittees for program, publicity, and stage management. Chairmen of the subcommittees served on the executive committee, and appointments were divided between the Recreation

Commission staff and the Junior Chamber of Commerce members.

This type of program has been featured monthly at three community clubhouses, and the weekly program on Monday nights at the Municipal Auditorium has been a popular public entertainment sponsored by the Recreation Commission for fifteen years. The programs are divided into three parts. First, a half hour of community singing led by volunteer directors and utilizing illustrated projection slides; second, a stage program which varies from week to week with schools, dance and dramatic groups and musical organizations supplying the talent; finally, about two hours of old-time square dancing. The square dancing is greatly enjoyed by middle-aged and elderly residents.

All the community night programs have been well attended, but the Monday night programs at the Municipal Auditorium hold the local record, averaging 2,500 a week year after year.

Briefly, the purpose which the Recreation Commission has in mind in sponsoring community programs is twofold. There is, of course, the fundamental desire to provide enjoyable entertainment of a nature which can be attended by entire family groups and which draws the residents of the several sections of the city closer together. Then there is the objective of affording amateur local talent an opportunity to appear before audiences and thus have the satisfaction of developing skills and talents. A third reason which might be stated because that is the way it works out in practice is the provision of a ready means for general cooperation between many civic and private groups of the city who enjoy making a contribution to the public recreation of the community.

Fun Nights in Houston

Even babies are welcome at Fun Night in Houston's North Side Community, for a nursery keeps them safe and comfortable for the evening while other members of the family are busy playing games, singing, dancing and attending craft classes.

Fun Night in the North Side Community is sponsored by a Community Advisory Committee, assisted by representatives from parent-teacher associations, churches and schools of the community, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Parks and Recreation Department, Y.W.C.A., Y.M.C.A., Council of Social Agencies, and the Crime Prevention Bureau.

"Fun Night belongs to you," reads the invitation. "For everyone except the babies there will be something different each week in movies, amateur talent, talks, music, and whatever you like. This is *your* community fun night. Help make it yours by joining in the fun on Fridays and by becoming a member of the advisory council to plan the program."

Here is a typical program for the entire family:

For Children

Games for Boys (7:00-8:00). Lots of fun and all sorts of activities under good leadership.

Games for Girls (7:00-8:00). A leader who knows how will keep the fun going.

A Story Hour (8:00-9:00). A storyteller to bring you both old and new favorites.

Library. Open all evening if you want to read or just browse.

For Adults

The Program Hour (8:00-9:00). Movies, talks on subjects of interest, community singing can be arranged depending upon interest of the group. If you have ideas or requests, talk to the committee.

Table Games (7:00-9:00). Checkers, chess, cards, and similar games.

Homemaking Class. A chance to get expert instruction and interesting discussions concerning problems of the home—victory menus, budgets in wartime, child care.

Citizenship Class (7:00-9:00). For those who want to take out citizenship papers—sympathetic and skilled teachers to prepare persons for the examinations and to answer all sorts of questions involved in becoming a citizen of the United States.

For "Teen-Agers"

Social Games for all Teen-Agers (7:00-8:00). A party every time for all who want to join in some really good fun.

Fun Dancing (8:00-9:00). Social dancing, folk dancing or instructions in dancing (if that's what you like). A 10 cent charge per evening to pay for music.

Art for Fun (7:00-8:00). For beginners and open to all who want to play at painting, sketching, block printing.

Music for Fun (7:00-8:00). For beginners — open to all — singing songs and getting acquainted with new and old music.

More Art (8:00-9:00). For

Another city which is promoting family and community nights is Houston, Texas. Here an enterprising group of people in North Side Community, where there are few recreation centers, arranged to open John Marshall Junior High School every Friday night from 7:00 to 9:00.

Every resident of the section who feels the urge to enjoy an evening of fun and good fellowship is invited to attend and to take a hand in planning the program.

Armed with picnic basket and game equipment, this Long Beach, California, family is headed for the recreation area for an evening of fun

those who have had some experience but want more in sketching, painting, block printing.

More Music (8:00-9:00). Choral singing, string band, or just more good songs, as you wish.

Crafts and Handwork (7:00-9:00). All kinds of things to do with your hands — leather work, wood work, Indian crafts — you name it. Charge for cost of materials only.

Puppets (7:00-9:00). Making and operating those little actors of the stage. The groups can put on plays or just play — as they wish.

Boys' Basketball and Volley Ball (7:00-8:00). A good time for any boy interested in these sports. A 25 cent charge for three months.

Indianapolis Initiates "Family Nites"

In Indianapolis, "Family Nites" featured novelty relays and games in which the whole family could take part — volley ball, softball, and kickball for father and son, or mother and daughter, community sings, amateur hours (child and adult), and basket suppers. Adults were encouraged by the Park Department to use the lighted playgrounds, which were open until 11:00 P. M., and to organize teams in games of various kinds.

Twilight Programs in a West Coast City

In an effort to increase neighborhood recreation programs for family groups, special twilight programs were arranged last summer at a number of the play areas maintained by a California city. Residents of each district were brought into the organization to work with area directors in planning activities and providing leadership. Picnic suppers, followed by a program of sports and games, were regular features of these get-togethers. Where buildings were available for the purpose, indoor stage programs and socials sometimes followed the outdoor program.

Good Neighbors All

By VIRGINIA FOX
Director
Lincoln Park Community Center
Denver, Colorado

THE CHILDREN of the Lincoln Park Community Center, Denver, Colorado, paid a nine week "visit" to the countries of their Latin American neighbors last summer.

This imaginary journey was a result of the Center's program theme — a project entitled, "Our Good Neighbors South of the Border." The last week of the adventure was spent in making plans for the big fiesta in which all age groups took part.

Lincoln Park Community Center, sponsor of the Good Neighbor project described by Miss Fox, is one of the agencies supported by the Denver, Colorado, Community Chest. It is located within the Lincoln Park Homes, a housing development on the city's west side. The Center serves not only families living in the Homes but residents of the surrounding neighborhood.

The trip, an airplane ride to South America, began on June 14th and continued every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning for nine weeks. Several mornings were spent seeing Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil. Activities centered around those programs which would furnish background to help children understand the people of Latin America; storytelling, group singing, group games, music appreciation, and dancing were all part of their "lessons."

Mexico the First Stop

The first stop made on the trip was Mexico, and the background of that country was given through the telling of stories of the lives, homes, and friends of Mexican children. History was furnished by legends of the Aztec Indians. Spanish speaking children in the group danced the El Jarabe and Las Chiapanecas for the other children who, in turn, learned these dances themselves. In the assembly period everyone learned Spanish and Mexican songs.

Divided into small groups, the six and seven year old children made pottery bowls, drew Mexican flags, and strung macaroni necklaces combining the Mexican colors. The eight and nine year olds worked out a large mural on brown paper, while the ten and twelve year olds modeled a Mexican market place out of colored plasticene. And when the journey was over, the children prepared a Mexican luncheon for parents and friends. Under the supervision of one of the Mexican staff workers they made tortillas, Spanish rice, and agus de pina. Mexican hats of construction paper were made for place cards at the tables.

Then on to Other Lands

The trip continued to Cuba where the group was given the background from which they chose to work out craft projects. One of the neighborhood girls exhibited authentic Cuban musical instruments and danced the conga and rhumba for the group. Some of the children dramatized the story, "Tito, the Pig of Guatamala," while others made and learned to play Cuban instruments such as tom-toms constructed from cocoa and cheese boxes, and tin cans, maracas made from gourds, and marimbas built from wood.

In Peru, the children learned about weaving, making looms first on cardboard and later on wooden boxes. In Chile they were told about Inca ceremonials and worked out one. They flew to Argentina and engaged in similar activities there.

When the tourists reached Brazil, they were told interesting legends of the people who had lived in that country. Older boys made jungle arrows and worked out a dance through the use of mimetics, while the girls in this age group also created a dance using the same medium as the boys. Their tom-toms were used as accompaniment for the dance which was called the "Dance of the Tortillas." A younger group selected and dramatized a jungle story using the first puppets they had created.

Finally, the Fiesta!

When the journey was over, final preparations were made the last week for the fiesta. The use of the outdoor theater for the event was requested and granted. The manager of the parks department called upon his staff to provide whatever was needed. A crew of electricians set up facilities for lighting and the ground crew prepared the outdoor theater.

Adult groups assisted with the costuming.

(Continued on page 105)

Day Camping 1943

Gedge Harmon

Last summer, in spite of tremendous difficulties, a very successful program of day camping was conducted in the District of Columbia. The story of the camps is told by Cora Wells Thorpe, a member of the administrative staff of the District of Columbia Recreation Department.

PROBLEMS OF TRANSPORTATION, personnel, and food supplies, along with other difficulties too numerous to mention, made day camping a hazardous undertaking last summer. Nevertheless, a number of successful ventures were reported.

In the District of Columbia

The summer of 1943 constituted a direct challenge to the Nation's Capital. It was the hottest summer in seventy years. The city, with a wartime increment of servicemen and war workers, had topped normal population by nearly a quarter of a million. The demands for increased facilities and services for young people were greater than ever.

The responsibilities involved extended to practically every department of the District government, and a large share had descended upon the shoulders of the Recreation Board. An analysis of conditions revealed that because of lack of transportation, shortage of food, and personnel difficulties, many previously active camps operated by public and private agencies had failed to open. The camp problem was obviously on the Board's doorstep.

There were ways of alleviating conditions—excellent ways, already well organized and operating smoothly, the Recreation Board decided. There were teen age dances on open tennis courts, outdoor sports, an active aquatic program, picnics, concerts, and special events, all far-reaching and effective, but there was, undoubtedly, a contribution pre-eminently reserved for the day camp.

Day camps were not brand new projects in Washington, but neither their number nor program was equal to the present needs. There must be more diversification of activities. The press and the community must be solidly behind them. The value of informative stories and pictures in the local press became evident when one early release increased the enrollment by three hundred in a single morning. Eventually the requests for placement exceeded greatly the capacity of the camps which accommodated a final total of 936.

The Training Program. The support of the community was the primary objective to which the camp staff addressed itself. The camp training program started one month in advance of the camps themselves with the dual purpose of orienting the supervisors who made up the paid and volunteer camp staff in the fine art of camping successfully, and of familiarizing the general public with the prospective camp project. As a means of accomplishing the latter, the staff inaugurated a series of personal appearances before the civic organizations, schools, and churches of the community, designed through personal contacts to transmit the message of the camps-to-be to the surrounding neighborhoods.

The staff training meetings took on the flavor of the project itself. In the first meeting, which continued throughout an entire Saturday, enthusiastic leaders journeyed from camp site to camp site, exploring the facilities, wading in the brooks, and conducting their deliberations while seated on a convenient log. At a second meeting at the brisk hour of 7:00 A. M., they prepared an *alfresco* breakfast over tin can ovens, which ultimately served as the favorite means of cooking throughout the summer. They were easily procurable, easily transportable, and unbelievably successful. Upon the surfaces of these improvised ovens the young campers prepared ambitious menus—bacon, eggs cooked neatly in bread baskets, coffee, fried apples. The story is told that on the occasion of a tour of inspection by the Recreation Board, the President of the Board first viewed the toothsome and pungent contents of a kettle simmering over a campfire, observed the potatoes baked in clay, Hawaiian style,

the fried apples spluttering on the tin ovens, the hot ginger-bread, and accepted the camp's invitation to dinner forthwith!

Opening Day Arrives. Thus carefully planned and supervised, the camps opened on June 28 with a bumper registration. Three were conducted solely by the Recreation Department, two in cooperation with the Georgetown Neighborhood Council. Camp sites, selected with due regard to woods, streams, pools, general accessibility to transportation, a plentiful supply of good drinking water, and open spaces for archery, pageantry and games, were further provided by the National Capital Parks with fireplaces, temporary sanitation, and water spigots. The locality was suggested in the respective names selected: Camp Tah-Ko-Ma, Oxon Run, Foundry Branch, Fort Dupont, and Rock Creek Parkway. Each was to run four two-week periods with the exception of Camp Rock Creek Parkway, which continued for nine weeks. An extra dividend was paid in the form of an additional week at the close of the season, designated as "Camp Round-Up," to which only outstanding campers were bidden. As an incentive to excellent behavior and camp morale it was unsurpassed, including as it did, the coveted privilege of a night spent in the cool of the woods.

"You should have seen them!" exclaimed an enthusiastic camp supervisor, "gathered about a campfire, the woods vocal with their old favorite:

'Oh, we're the kids from Camp (camp name)
And we know how to sing.
And if we do not have a song,
We'll sing most anything.
It doesn't have to have a tune
It may not even rhyme,
We'll sing it for you anywhere,
We'll sing it any time.'

"And how they studied the heaven's constellations, as wrapped in their serviceable blankets they stretched out under the stars on their Klondyke beds."

"A happy thought," observed another leader, "in keeping camp unity in the program was the idea of having a theme for each two-week period. They were Indians, Cowboys, and Pirates during the summer. A theme gives a camper something to hang to; his games, songs, dances, and crafts take on a fuller meaning, even romance. To make a tin lantern is fun; to make a pirate lantern is thrilling.

"And, too, there was the healthy rivalry induced still further by subdividing the camps. In Tah-Ko-Ma, for the two weeks, the children were Cowboys, some boys were "Rattlesnakes," living on White-Oak Ranch; other boys were Coyotes on Diamond-C Ranch, and the younger girls, Prairie Dogs, on Rocking Chair Ranch. Each ranch had definite boundaries, a password, and other secrets which made a greater group loyalty.

Nor was there the old bugaboo of camp "clean-ups"; intense ranch loyalty ran too high for that, each group wanting its ranch to look the best. Nor did group loyalty outweigh camp loyalty. Each unit assembled for the morning's flag raising, shared a common ritual before dispersing to pursue its busy schedule until the close of the afternoon became the signal for a final hail and farewell. Seemingly independent, their days were in reality closely coordinated. While one unit cooked one day, another cleaned up and made the camp shipshape. The care of equipment fell to a third; the responsibility of making the fires devolved upon a fourth.

No phase of campcraft intrigued the young campers more than the primitive spell of fire-making. There were the tepee fires, which burn fastest; the council fire, the slowest and longest; the star fire with its big logs ready to be pushed into place, as they are ignited by the small tepees.

And then there were such imperative duties as the protection against accident, the care of the water and Lyster bags, the protection of food, the remedies for poison ivy, the vast accumulation of firewood, the disposal of waste, the program for rainy days which included trips to the Natural History Museum and the Zoo, the keeping of the log. Duties, all of them, which had the charm of novelty and were integrated into a daily schedule which started with a morning swim followed by camp songs, and included an active craft program occupying the intervening hours until the midday meal.

The allure of crafts was apparently enhanced by their variety. They were the whittling of wooden cooking utensils, bowls, spoons, and knives, and the gathering and sorting of firewood. There were also burlap sewing, finger painting, puppetry, clay modeling, mounting of butterflies, construction of crude band instruments, block printing, knot-tying and basketry. Such were a few of the absorbing activities engaging the young campers until the close of the camp day when in single file—an impressive procession—they marched solemnly homeward—eager for the return of another day.

Some Questions Are Answered. "What are some

of the lessons derived from the summer's experiences?" the supervisor was asked.

"Of course we should have more leaders," was the prompt reply. "We had only one to perhaps sixteen children. One to eight would be nearer the ideal proportion. Another year we will systematically canvass colleges, churches, community organizations, for personnel. High school vocational advisers and Scout leaders will be approached this winter with the request that they watch for dependable young people with ability to teach, vigorous personalities, outdoor experience, and craft skills.

"And then, one always needs more equipment—big and small. Scissors and needles, shovels and saws, green wood for crafts, boxes with locks for equipment, and wood logs for proper length, where the camper is too small to chop them.

"The dust raised by the children is always a problem, too." (Washington had experienced its dryest season in ninety years.)

"Has irregularity of attendance been a problem?" she was asked.

"Not to any appreciable extent," was the reply. "Having far more applications than we could accommodate, every child realized that if he were irregular in attendance he would forfeit his place." Day camp experience has shown that average camp attendance is 50 per cent. Our camps had an average daily attendance of 76 per cent.

"And the effect on our juvenile delinquency problem?" we pursued. "Assuredly," she smiled, "therein lies the day camps' outstanding contribution to the community. Even the youthful marauders, gathered enviously just beyond our camp frontiers with no good purpose in mind, when invited to join us became some of our best campers. The problem child, too, disappeared long before the end of the two weeks. Those who whined the first few days were soon busily engaged in some craft; those who were 'the cow's tail' at first, were soon abreast of the group; those who were overenthusiastic learned to await their turn, knowing it would come the sooner because of self-control."

The supervisor paused and then concluded, "Children have to learn to love camping. They have to be taught. Today we are just developing a course of child education in the out of doors. It will be reflected in the health, the morale, the good citizenship of the juvenile population of the Nation's Capital in mounting proportions as the years go by. Next year we shall prepare for double the enrollment."

Decatur Goes Camping

Last summer the Department of Public Recreation of Decatur, Illinois, conducted a day camp program in cooperation with the State Park Department and with the sponsorship of the Lions Club of the city. The site of the camp was the Spitler Woods State Park, approximately eight miles from Decatur, where eighty acres of virgin timberland provided natural wooded trails and opportunities for out-of-door activities such as:

Nature lore	Ceremonies
Indian lore	Hiking
Signaling	Tracking and trailing
Exploration	Safety
Music	Nature craft
Pioneer lore	Cooking
Camp craft	Blazing
Use of fire	Council fire
Rituals	Museum
Collections	Games
Dramatics	Storytelling

"To give to children a succession of new experiences with flowers, birds and insects, streams, trees and clean winds, and with hills, plains, and open sky." This, according to the Public Recreation Department of Decatur is the purpose of the day camping program.

Gedge Harmon

The children were scheduled to attend the camp according to age and playground, the age groups being eight to eleven; eleven to fourteen. Before any child was allowed to attend camp, a permit had to be properly executed by both parent and child and filed with the playground or camp director.

The children were picked up at their respective playgrounds in carriers provided by the Recreation Depart-

ment which left the playgrounds at 9:00 o'clock, returning at approximately 5:00. The children were asked to provide their own lunches carefully marked with their names, and each child was assigned a portion of the meal to be assembled and cooked at camp.

Upon arrival at camp, the children were divided into tribes of from ten to twenty. The time and activity schedule was made as flexible as possible in order not to overprogram or overschedule the camper.

Camp Themes

Two themes were used at camp during the 1943 season. For the first four weeks the program was built around the cowboy, and the woods became a "Dude Ranch." On entering the woods, the campers assembled at the "Corral" for the roundup, and there were nature hikes over the Antelope and Bucktail Trails. The creek winding through the woods was known as the "Wagon Wheel Water Hole," and was a popular spot during trail activities for wading. At mealtime the cowpunchers and cowgirls assembled at the trading post where they were issued noon rations from the "Chuck Wagon" and given instructions in fire building and cooking.

If you are planning to establish day camps in connection with your recreation program, be sure that you have the practical information provided in *Day Camping*, the booklet published by the National Recreation Association. 25 cents.

During the second four weeks at camp the Paul Bunyan theme was followed. "Dude Ranch" was converted into "Big Onion Camp." On arrival campers assembled at "Pyramid Forty," followed the Blue Ox and Splinter Cat trails, and had their noon rations at "Old Joe's Shanty."

The camp program was so arranged that the camper, through a natural continuity of activities, became familiar with cowboy and Paul Bunyan lore. The program of activities included nature lore, signaling, lashing, the making of woodland gadgets, collecting, exploration, "whittlin' brands," storytelling, singing, log rolling, and roping.

A popular feature of the program was the Chumfoo nature quest. Participants were given slips of paper on which were listed the names of at least ten types of vegetation studied while hiking over the trails. Children successful in finding and identifying these specimens became members of the tribe of Chumfoo. An overnight camp at the end of the season for Chumfoos was an added incentive for the campers to learn as much as possible about nature and nature appreciation while at camp. These overnight camping periods were held on the last four nights of the season.

The Program Schedule

9:30 - 10:00—Roundup at "Corral"
1. Explanation of cowboy theme
2. Learning of cowboy songs
3. "Ride 'Em Cowboy" to determine the camp cowpuncher and camp cowgirl
4. Reigning cowpuncher and cowgirl selected
   a. Collectors of song sheets
   b. Color bearer and color guards
   c. Reader for patriotic poem

10:00 - 10:10—Raising of trading post
Gathering of wood and proper laying of log cabin fire

10:10 - 10:20—Flag Ceremonial
Allegiance—"America"—Reading of patriotic poem—"God Bless America"

10:20 - 10:30—Passing of cups—drinks—washing of hands
Explanation of snoop hike—nibble box

10:30 - 11:45—Snoop hike over the Antelope and Bucktail Trails
1. Division into cowpunchers and cowgirls
2. Woodland games while "snooping" such as
   a. Curio collector
   b. Curious shaped animals
   c. Holding the front
   d. Spot spy
3. Wading in Wagon Wheel Water Hole

11:45 - 12:00—Washing of hands—drinks
Explanation of proper cooking procedures with sticks
Singing of grace

12:00 - 12:10—"Come and Git It" at Chuck Wagon
Distribution of food and milk

12:10 - 1:00—Eating of lunch within the Corral
1. Disposal of garbage
2. Disposal of paper
3. Remaining lunch and empty milk bottles returned to Chuck Wagon

1:00 - 2:00—Rest Period
1. Relaxing on "sougans" under a tree
2. Reading
3. Sketching
4. Whittling brands
5. Storytelling
6. Exploration
7. Collecting
8. "Chin Music"
9. Signaling
10. Lashing
11. Woodland gadgets

(1:30 - 2:00)—Roping or Lariat Competition
Horseshoes
Dogie Drivers

2:00 - 3:00—Chumfoo Nature Quest (Identification of the following):

Meadow Daisy	Hickory Leaf
Locust Leaf	Buck Brush
Violet Leaf	Maple Leaf
Chumfoo Toothpick	Solomon's Seal
Mayapple Leaf	Oak Leaf

3:00 - 3:10—Explanation of the game —"Dispatch Running" or "Capture the Flag"

3:10 - 3:40 — Game — "Dispatch Running" or "Capture the Flag"

3:40 - 4:00—The Last Roundup

1. Camper Cowpuncher and Camper Cowgirl bestow Chumfoo insignia upon Chumfoos
2. Initiation into the Tribe of Chumfoos
3. Informal creative dramatics before respective cowpuncher and cowgirl
4. Hanging of Brands

4:00 - 4:10—Retreat—Proper folding of the Flag

4:10 - 4:25—Group singing while equipment is being packed—circle games

4:25 - 4:30—Singing of Taps and Friendship Circle

4:30 - 5:00—Departure from camp-arrival at playground

Gedge Harmon

In day camping we attempt to give to the city child a taste of the joy of a summer vacation in the country

A City Camp in Long Beach

All the usual and popular camp sites available to residents of Long Beach, California, are located in the mountain area a considerable distance from the city. It was evident last summer that wartime traveling restrictions would decrease opportunities for camping for many people. To meet this situation to some degree, the Recreation Commission improved an area within the city limits and placed in charge an experienced camp leader. Boys from various playgrounds signed up the groups, and each day camp facilities were assigned to one of these groups. There was a program of recreation, but interest was added by scheduling definite instruction in pitching tents, camp cooking, boating, swimming, and nature hikes. Bus transportation was provided from the playground, and a recreation director met the boys at the area and returned with them at the close of the day.

In this project the Recreation Commission had the cooperation of other city departments, and the P.T.A. assisted by donating a fund to help buy meat for the camp stew. The boys brought vegetables from their homes, and each one paid a dime toward the cost of the chocolate milk which was distributed daily.

The Recreation Commission joined with the Y.W.C.A., Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls in promoting and sponsoring a day camp program for girls. Each of the cooperating organizations conducted activities at its own center, the idea being to make the plan city-wide as to promotion but local in relation to the average distance from the homes of the participants.

A clubhouse located on the beach was made the center of the Recreation Commission's activities. This building, known as Belmont Recreation Center, contains a well-equipped craft shop. Handcraft became a popular activity. Rhythms and dramatic classes were organized, and beach activities were interspersed with other features to add variety to the program. The attendance at the centers testified to the success of the plan.

The Walnut Hills Day Camp

Preceding the opening of its Walnut Hills Day Camp, the Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati held a training school of counselors to give these workers a picture of the decentralized camp and the responsibilities they would have. They practiced making fires with various kinds of wood found in the vicinity and thus learned which were the best. They received instruction in making fireplaces, in crafts of various kinds, and in nature recreation.

The camp opened on August 16th with a group of campers from the basin area—the poorer section of the city. The camp was divided into four units, with a counselor, and not more than six campers in each unit. When the campers arrived at 10:00 o'clock, they immediately began their

(Continued on page 105)

Pantomime Is Easy

By GRACE MARIE STANISTREET

Director, Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center
Adelphi College

Participation in drama should free a child of self-consciousness. Too frequently the reverse effect is produced and by studied action, memorized lines, and formal performances, the child becomes very self-conscious of his audience or feels a nervous strain in remembering the lines he is to speak.

With the approaching summer camp and playground season, directors are looking about for dramatic materials for rainy day use, for assembly and visitors' day, and for educational purposes. The writer has found, through years of camp experience, a few serviceable ideas for the presentation of the informal, almost "rehearsal-less" play, which she offers here.

WE ALL RECOGNIZE pantomime as one of the most practical means for children's plays. With increased adult interest in the ballet, and the universal appeal of such movement and color, the ballet play, like those produced by Junior Programs, has become a very popular form of children's entertainment.

There are many variations of this kind of play, from the ever-useful shadow play to the well-rehearsed pantomime. One method is to have the children playing the story (if they are over ten years of age) think of themselves as puppets, and pantomime the dialogue of a play. This, of course, demands close coordination between the actor and the reader, and more direction from the leader. But it is fun, and it creates more opportunities for participation in that the better readers of the group may be cast to read the parts of the play. It is desirable to have a reader for every character unless an expert who can create voices for each character is available. The readers may be in evidence, or they may be concealed. The writer has used both ways.

One of the most successful productions by this method was a scene from "The Nutcracker of Nuremberg," the story retold by Donald E. Cooke, published by John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia. The scene selected was the one in which the handsome young doctor becomes a nutcracker. This version of the story drops the narrative style at this point and becomes dramatic dialogue.

The Pantomime Method

With a few changes any story will lend itself to the pantomime method. In order to create the illusion of the play it is necessary to unify it in place and time, and, if necessary, divide it into scenes. The story of "The Sleeping Beauty," for instance, could be arranged in the following manner:

SCENE I—The Throne Room
Action: The Christening
SCENE II—The Tower Room
Action: Incident of the Spindle
SCENE III—The Throne Room
Action: The Princess, weeping, rushes in to the assembled court. All are suddenly overcome by sleep.
SCENE IV—The Forest—100 years later
Action: The Prince discovers the castle
SCENE V—The Throne Room
Action: The Awakening

It is better to select a suitable story and arrange it to fit the needs of the group than to try to fit the group to a play. The story field offers wider selection of material, and opportunity for group creativity and participation, and greater satisfaction in the final production.

Costumes and stage sets may be simple or elaborate. The writer favors the Chinese method of production which depends to a large extent on the use of symbols for scenery and properties, and on the imagination of the audience to interpret them.

One device to explain such simple presentation, and at the same time dignify it, is to use a prelude of spoken dialogue. The following scene was written to precede a pantomime version of "The Golden Cockerel," illustrated and told by Willy and Elaine Pogany, published by Thomas R. Nelson, New York. Because it is obviously a device it may be adapted for any production.

BOY *(Seated on barrel with baby carriage near him. Some children hurry in)*: What's your hurry?
CHILDREN: We're going to a play.
BOY: What's a play?
CHILDREN: He doesn't know what a play is!
BOY: Bet you don't either.
CHILDREN: We do, too.
BOY: Well, what is it?
CHILDREN: Well, it's a story.

BOY: A story is just a story. Why don't you say you're going to a story then?

CHILDREN: But it's not just a story. It's real people and a stage. But they aren't real people; they're only pretend people. Oh, yes, they are real people but they're pretending to be people in a story. And they have costumes, and a stage and lights. And an audience. And scenery. (These speeches are divided among the group.)

BOY: Well, what do the people do?

CHILDREN: Act out a story.

BOY: A true story?

CHILDREN: Sometimes it's true, sometimes it's just pretend, make believe. The one we're going to see is just pretend. It's called "The Golden Cockerel."

BOY: Why don't you have it here?

CHILDREN: Here? But there isn't any scenery.

BOY: You said it was all pretend. Why can't you pretend the scenery? I could.

CHILDREN: So could we, but where is the audience?

BOY: There are some people out there, ask them. I'll ask them. Will you be the audience? Sure, they'll be your audience.

CHILDREN: But we haven't actors.

BOY: I could pretend so hard I bet I could be audience and act too.

CHILDREN: But somebody has to know the story.

LADY *(passing by)*: Would I do? I know the story of "The Golden Cockerel," and there are some of the actors now on their way to the play. Shall we ask them if they'd play here?

CHILDREN: Yes, you ask them.

BOY: Could I ask them? Are you people really actors? On your way to the play? Look, I can't go there. Could you do it here because I never saw a play, and I can't go to your place because I have to mind the baby. Look, would you do it?

ACTORS: But there isn't any stage.

BOY: If you're good pretenders you don't need any, do you?

ACTORS: That's right, we don't, but how about the audience? Are *they* good pretenders?

BOY: You're all good pretenders, aren't you? Yes, they're good pretenders.

ACTORS *(after consultation)*: Sure, we'll do it, but where's our storyteller?

LADY: I know the story.

KING: But Dunya isn't here.

LADY: Oh, I'll be Dunya, too.

BOY: If we're good pretenders could we be in the play?

KING: Of course. The best kind of audience is actor and the best actor is audience. Why not? Now are we all ready? Actors disappear! Audience close your eyes! Wind up your imaginations. When I say go you may open your eyes. Ready, get set, go!

Unity of Audience and Actor

An important factor in the production of simple plays is the unity of audience and actor. As expressed in the foregoing prologue, the good actor must be audience as well, and the audience must always participate in the play for a really successful performance. It is a good idea to make this actively true with young audiences and actors. Closer cooperation may be achieved by representing the audience dramatically as in Stuart Walker's play for children, "Sir David Wears a Crown," or by having some of the actors actually part of the

The gypsy who told and sold the story of the Nutcracker of Nuremberg; the little boy who bought it for a penny, and the Nutcracker himself. Produced by the Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center in June 1943 at Adelphi College.

audience as in a prologue devised to preface a pantomime production of "The Nutcracker of Nuremberg." This may be used as an introduction to any story.

Three children are jumping rope. A voice is heard singing in the distance.

"Stories for sale. Stories for sale, who'll buy my tales. Who'll buy my tales?"

BETTY: Who's that selling something down the street?

JANET: Sh! Listen to what she says.

GYPSY: Stories for sale. Who'll buy my tales?

HELEN: Why she's a gypsy. Let's see her. (They run to meet the gypsy, who carries a gay bundle.)

GYPSY: Stories for sale. Stories for sale. Who'll buy my tales?

CHUCK (*a little boy behind the gypsy, out of breath from running*): Lady, lady would you swap one for a marble? I'll let you take your pick.

GYPSY: One for a penny, two for a shell. (Still singing her song.)

CHUCK: But I haven't got a penny. Aw, gee, Lady, lookit, they're swell marbles. Will you wait till I go home and ask my mother? Will you? (She is still walking, he is following.)

GYPSY: Pink ones, blue ones, yellow ones, green ones —

BETTY: What are those things? (pointing to the bundle)

GYPSY (*she stops*): Stories for telling to boys and girls. Lavenders, reds, and purples and blues, adventure, romance, historic and true, thrilling or quiet, old or new. Tales for sale. (She continues her song and walks on.)

JIMMIE (*appears from another direction*): I'll buy one, lady, but I only have a penny. What can you tell me for a penny? I don't want history, and it mustn't be new, for there's nothing like an old tale that's been a favorite, too.

GYPSY: An old tale, sir? (*She stops and opens her bundle.*) I think I have one here to suit the taste of you. And it only costs a penny, a little shiny penny, plus a smile or two. How would this one do?

JIMMIE: Yes, I think that would please me. It's quite a pleasant color. Would you tell it to me now?

This action takes place on the floor of the auditorium, not on the stage. The gypsy enters from the rear of the room, if possible, walking through the audience.

The Storytelling Method

Another method of presenting pantomime is for the storyteller (in costume, if desired) to tell the story of each scene before it happens and use a musical background for the action. In this way time, place, scene and characters can be described and introduced by the storyteller.

Pantomime is the best kind of acting for children because the action is prompted constantly by the storyteller and the actors learn to listen. When the young actor has to memorize lines and action he becomes stilted, artificial, and nervous. Some leaders may ask, "Then why not use impromptu dialogue?" This is fine for exercise but most directors consider it inadequate for a performance for several reasons. When children talk in a play, that is, make up their speeches, they naturally key their voices to reach only those on the stage. Except with much practice they cannot consider the audience and think their lines too. And it is worth mentioning here that when they memorize their speeches, they think only of remembering the words, or of reaching the audience, and consequently fail to think the part. Another reason for avoiding impromptu dialogue in actual performance is that the actors are apt to run away with the story, lose sight of the main points, or to distort characters and scenes.

Miss Stanistreet has produced a number of pantomime plays at the Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center, among them, Moth in Ermine (an unpublished story); The Piper (the Browning poem); The Nutcracker (based on the well-known story); and The Golden Cockerel (version of Elaine and Willy Pogany) which will be produced June 16th at Adelphi College, Garden City, N. Y.

The author is reminded of a pantomime production of "The Piper" in which the mayor, who was wearing a top hat, lost it on the stage. The director, who was watching, wondered how it would get back to the mayor. The tall hat lay in the middle of the stage. The mayor was too fat and dignified to stoop for the hat, and also he was engaged in an important piece of business. A member of the corporation, extricating himself from the group, moved over to the place where the hat had rolled, picked it up, and with an elaborate bow, returned it to the mayor. The mayor (a twelve year old girl) bowed his thanks and clapped it back on his head, then as an afterthought took it off, rubbed it on his sleeve, and replaced it on his head. This was such a delightful, natural bit of business that it was retained in the next performance. This is an indication of the freedom to act, and of the naturalness that pantomime produces which is not often possible with spoken lines.

The director who appreciates values of dramatic experience for children and knows that the individual receives value from the experience in proportion to the effectiveness of the whole production will make increasing use of pantomime. Children love to act. Pantomime gives them opportunity to do their best acting without strain or fear of forgetting. It provides the director with opportunity to do a good piece of work in a short time, and it furnishes the audience with a very satisfying performance.

Circus Time in Norfolk

Some of the spectators were a little awed by the animals, but they loved the circus!

THERE NEVER was an amateur circus like the one which brought to a close the 1943 playground season in Norfolk, Virginia. Every one of the 250 children and 100 adults who took part in it, every one of the 2,000 spectators who watched it, will tell you that! Each playground was responsible for contributing an act to the "Grinmore Circus," and children and play leaders worked hard to make animals and costumes. Even the Military Police helped!

The circus, sponsored by the Bureaus of Parks and Recreation, was held on the cement tennis courts at City Park. Two circus rings about 22 feet in diameter were made by using park benches and rope, decorated with red, white, and blue

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Introducing the playground circus favorite, "Angelica," the creation of many busy hands

What's Happening on the West Coast?

By FLORENCE WILLIAMS
USO Consultant on Health and Recreation
for the National Board, Y.W.C.A.

RIDING AN aquaplane behind a speeding boat is fun. Keeping one's balance as the tricky board bounces over the waves is exciting, but the time usually comes when a sudden turn or large wave tosses all but the most expert. The boat goes on and the swimmer is left adrift.

Wives of servicemen, like the aquaplaner, are following the boat of war, happy as long as they are with their husbands, but knowing always that some day a huge wave will carry the boat and G.I. Joe ahead, leaving them to face life alone. Hundreds of thousands of women from all walks of life, from farms, factories and Junior Leagues, are still leaving home ties behind and are swarming into Army towns.

On the West Coast, where some of the greatest Army and Navy installations in the country have been built, the onrushing legion of wives has thrown whole areas into confusion. These wives—along with the army of war workers—form an important part of the new population of the West Coast. And it is estimated that 20 per cent of the people living there today were not there two years ago, and that 85 per cent of these newcomers will remain after the war!

Older women married for years, young girls on their first journey away from mother—each is on the move, her plans for the future and the solid foundation of established family life thrown out of balance by the war's hold on her husband and by her own need to stay near him until the day of final departure.

Little things mean so much to these couples waiting and dreading separation. In one USO a young wife cried bitterly because a club davenport was to be sent out to be reupholstered. When a staff member asked what was the trouble, she sobbed, "Johnnie and I sit on that couch every evening and pretend that the club is our apartment and we are sitting on our own davenport. Can't you leave it until he's shipped?" The davenport stayed!

A soldier's morale depends upon a lot of little things. The most important is the welfare of his wife. Actually "Just to be near you" is a sweet sentiment for a love song, but in real life it leaves much to be desired. A wife, even though she lives just around the corner from camp, is no bundle of cheer to her soldier husband if she finds herself cooped up in a tiny room with nothing to do all day but wait for the few free hours he can spend with her. And a tiny room is what she is likely to find, if she's lucky, because towns near military areas are jammed to the attics.

She'll be even luckier if she finds a job in this town that's bursting at the seams. And a job is something many an Army wife must have, not only to keep busy for her disposition's sake, but because she must earn money to supplement her husband's pay check. Otherwise she could not remain near him at all.

In their eagerness to join their husbands, many of these wives overlook the fact that even in these days of manpower shortage there can be areas of surplus labor. Thousands of courageous girls give up good jobs and trek across country hoping to find work near their husbands, often gambling their last nickel on that hope. Sometimes arriving with a baby in their arms, they seek rooms, jobs, and a day nursery for the baby.

Serving Wives and Children

USO directors perform countless services for these women—services which include finding them living quarters for a night or a month, locating husbands, fathers, and sons in camp, putting newly arrived children in schools, arranging recreation and cooking centers, and setting up classes in nutrition, baby care, and sewing.

A kitchen is an unknown quantity to many of these girls, and so USO kitchens are in use constantly, sometimes being signed for weeks in advance. Although most wives won't admit they can't cook, they are all anxious to learn new recipes. Girls from Texas want to make New England boiled dinners, and those from Maine, who are sent to the Mexican border, want to know all about beans and frijoles. Cooking and nutrition classes are blossoming all over the country, and the husbands are the enthusiastic recipients of some surprisingly good concoctions.

Many suggestions for activities come from the

wives themselves. In one club the girls decided to get out a monthly letter from "Betty Jeep" to their friends who had left the post. They told all the gossip, addressing the letter to "Dear Khaki-Wackies." At Medford, Oregon, the girls wrote a "Handbook for Wives" which they sent to the wife of any soldier who reported the imminent arrival of "his better half." The prospectus included information on the kind of clothes to bring, the possibilities of getting a job, room and board, the cost of living, and a listing of every store in town.

USO Division, National Board, Y.W.C.A.

These war workers, who serve as volunteers at the USO Club, live in a trailer and like it! However, they welcome the opportunity to prepare an occasional snack in the Club's kitchen.

A weekly luncheon followed by interest groups takes popularity honors. The meal is planned, cooked, and served by a committee and is often the one good meal in the week for many girls. Interest groups vary from Red Cross sewing, knitting or bandage rolling to gym and sports and child care courses. Girls from the North, South, East, and West play and work together, and in playing and working they learn to understand and be more tolerant of each other's differences.

"Heir Corps" clubs, Layette and "Ladies-in-Waiting" clubs have swept the country because many of these girls are expectant mothers—often with their first baby—away from home, young and pathetically afraid. In such groups the girls get together to make layettes, sew baby clothes, and discuss their common problems. Doctors, nurses, and public health officials give their time and talent so that the girls may really know what is happening to them and what to expect and so that babies once arrived will be properly cared for.

In one club a "Loan Cradle" was started by the USO and the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion when they discovered an expectant mother in serious financial trouble, with only half a dozen diapers laid away as Junior's layette. The plan was to have on hand as much baby equipment as possible — beds, bassinets, high chairs, buggies, clothing, so that when an enlisted man's wife has a baby it will not be necessary for her to buy things the baby will outgrow in a short time. She borrows equipment from the Cradle and returns it when Junior has grown past that stage. An appeal made through the local newspaper immediately brought two beds, complete with mattresses, sheets, pillows, pillow cases and pads, dozens of diapers, baby sweaters, booties, socks and blankets. The Loan Cradle is now a thriving institution.

Families of war workers are wartime victims, too, in the Pacific area as in other regions. Often they come from comfortable homes in towns where they are known and respected. They arrive as total strangers in—let us say, Vallejo, California, which in prewar days had 19,000 residents and today has more than 100,000, thanks to the Navy and the vast new shipyards! Of the tens of thousands of new workers great numbers of them are women, and several thousand are Negroes.

The tremendous influx of Negroes to this part

of the country has brought many racial tensions. Already social workers are concerned that the old patterns of segregation may be repeated here not only because communities often believe it easier to follow the most conservative patterns in dealing with race relations, but also because many of the shifting population come from communities where segregation exists and are seeking to transplant it.

Housing Projects Help Solve Problems

Government housing projects as well as trailer camps (that are fast disappearing as the housing projects rise) have been a partial solution to the problems presented by this fantastic migration, both Negro and white. In Vallejo alone almost a dozen such projects, both federal and private, are perched crazily on the wind-swept slopes.

In some large housing projects where local resources are inadequate or unavailable, the Federal Public Housing Authority and the FSA have requested the help of USO. Sometimes our leaders carry on an extension program in a trailer, in project recreation buildings, or in temporary buildings nailed together by the workers themselves. In one such spot the fathers and mothers got together and planned their own recreation building. The women cooked supper every night out under the trees while the men used their hammers and saws. Everybody had a grand time at this series of "cook-outs." The children gathered wood, the women cooked the wieners and hamburgers, and the men worked until dark night after night putting up the portable walls and floors.

In Hermiston, Oregon, families of war production workers arrived with furniture scratched and broken from a long haul in cars and trailers. They had not been able to bring pictures for the walls nor any knickknacks. The housing units, though clean, were barren, located in the sand and sage brush, so the House Beautiful Project was started.

The wives of workers were invited to the recreation hall to see samples of home crafts on exhibit. They all immediately wanted to make things to brighten their homes. They brought their furniture to the club and helped each other mend and paint it. They cut and framed pictures from the art magazines. Wall plaques were made by the dozen. Women in the pottery group made lovely bowls and vases. Cork table mats and coasters decorated with colorful designs in tempora paint were especially prized possessions. Trailer mothers developed their own line of spongex toys and animals; nonskid soap dishes rated with Papa!

These informal crafts led to many other interesting projects. It was easy to get acquainted in the Crafts Shop, and when the women knew each other they wanted to do other things together. Thus the program grew.

In the town of Ordnance, ten miles away — a development that sprang out of the desert to house workers in the great ordnance depot there — our workers, in cooperation with the project office, have secured a branch of the state library. The residents are delighted and are turning out to be among the greatest readers in the state!

They are working out a system of self-government in the project, too, aided by the USO recreation-health representatives and by the project manager, who was once the director of an FSA trailer and is now, with his wife, among the most enthusiastic of USO volunteers. They have interesting family recreation organized and music and craft activities.

Sometimes in our work in such federal housing projects we carry on all the recreation; in other places we supplement what local agencies can provide. With the cooperation of the project's manager and the blessing of the tenants, council committees of men and women, or teen age boys and girls, or both, are organized so that they may plan and carry out their own program.

In one coastal town shipyard workers brought material and made all the equipment for playgrounds in their trailer town. They even built playground shelters for rainy days. This group of men became so enthusiastic that they used every crate and stray bit of lumber to build benches for trailer lawns. Finally "tot lots" were constructed in nine different locations and then the trailerites, in droves, joined a training course to learn how to supervise and lead playground activities.

Last spring, in trailer and housing units, the prospect of communal gardens or a little patch of one's own land had a special appeal born of experience with the uncertain food situations in booming war industry towns.

Diagrams and charts were carefully studied. Discussions at meetings included everything from proper fertilizer to contour plowing. Experienced gardeners were corralled and questioned avidly. Rakes, hoes, spades and trowels were brought out and the first bright, sharp days of spring found numerous novices digging in the sweet-smelling earth.

In spite of cutworms, aphids, Japanese beetles, corn borers and other unwelcome pests, the results

of the eager planning and hard work of the gardeners indicated that many a baby-class "truck farmer" had a thumb as green as the first spear of lettuce that broke his ground.

In many communities, where a variety of vegetables sprouted in defense housing and trailer gardens, community canning and dehydration demonstrations were arranged at the club in cooperation with the state nutritionist and the county nutrition council. Women whose trailer kitchens were inadequate for canning purposes were invited to use the USO kitchen and pressure cooker. In one housing unit the county agricultural department distributed pamphlets on drying, canning and preserving, and for weeks the USO bulletin board was covered with canning recipes clipped from magazines and newspapers. The women eagerly took advantage of these practical helps and later the fruits of their labors were exhibited and judged at a canning display in the USO club. Ribbons were awarded to the winners.

Even the little girls from this same housing development, upon forming a Girl Scout troop, chose to grow a Victory garden as their first item of business. Victory gardeners in another club had their garden soil analyzed before planting. They also sought advice on planting from the county agricultural agent and on nutrition from the home economics teacher in order to know what vegetables to choose, both for hardy growing qualities and for their health value.

For Teen-Agers

Since there are too few or no recreation facilities for teen-agers still attending high and junior high schools in some war production centers, the USO has in some instances stepped into the breach. However, USO tries, through participation on community committees with school leaders, parent-teacher groups and social agencies, to encourage the already existing community agencies to take responsibility for programs with teen-agers.

When it seems necessary for USO to offer its services, it schedules specific times for teen-agers' meetings and parties separate from its program with adults. The program may be held in the USO building at a housing project, in a school, or in other community buildings. Some of this organizing of teen-agers has had a remarkable effect on the youngsters. One bunch of tough little thirteen-year-olds who found they could have fun without breaking furniture changed their name from the "Dirty Dozen" to "Junior Commandos." They listed the aims of the Junior Commandos as:

Eat watermelon
Learn to dance
Have football games in the fall
Be better citizens
Be on the radio

Occasionally a town, slow to recognize the needs of teen-agers, becomes enthusiastic after seeing results. Once aroused, the community usually takes over with a will and USO drops out.

All Honor to Volunteers!

Without volunteers this diversified job of the USO would not be possible. An army of more than a million men, women, and young people lend their time and talents to the work of the USO all over the country. They man the information desk, serve behind the snack bar, sit on the council or operating committee, help with the records, and keep the phonograph and circulating libraries in order. They mend and sew and bake, they chaperon the dances and teach the classes, they lend their known skills and uncover new ones never dreamed of. All this and more the volunteers are doing.

Twenty women donated more than 400 hours of their time within a week in one club when they sewed braid on more than a thousand Army caps. In another club a volunteer housing committee divided the town into seven areas and took the responsibility for investigating and reporting available rooms in each area. In some communities already busy recreation leaders have volunteered hours to teach square dancing, crafts or lead a training course.

In some military and industrial areas we serve, USO encountered an entirely new problem of securing volunteers. In the past, social workers have usually had the very cream of their community from which to select their unpaid workers. USO directors, however, often arrived in brand new communities without an established pattern, or in communities so overburdened by a sudden rise in population that the established patterns had broken down. Faced with this situation they had to begin afresh. And this, it turned out, was a very salutary thing. Everybody was a possible volunteer: factory worker and bank president, housewife and club woman, church group member and labor union representative, experienced and inexperienced. Hidden abilities were developed and the directors understood as they never had before the import-

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Those Young Folks of Ours!

Every week brings us news of the establishment of more youth centers in all parts of the land. Almost daily, pictures reach us showing boys and girls vigorously cleaning and renovating old buildings, or dancing to the music of juke boxes, or enjoying a snack and a drink at the soda bar. It's sweeping America — this youth center movement. And we, the grown-ups, owe it to these young people of ours to see to it that back of them, ready to extend a helping hand, are wise, unobtrusive adult leaders.

Instead of Curfew Laws

By ALLEN K. HEYDRICK
Board of Commerce
Bradford, Pennsylvania

ONE MORNING in February 1943 the community of Bradford, Pennsylvania, awoke to the realization that juvenile gangs and teen age youngsters were getting themselves into more and more scrapes. After a number of these escapades had been publicized, some of the local groups set up a cry for the re-enactment of the curfew law. This might have been successful had it not been for the farsightedness of Mayor Hugh J. Ryan and members of the Civic Committee of the Board of Commerce, who believed that inflicting another regulation on already over-regulated boys and girls was not the answer to the problem.

So this little group decided to do something about it. The Mayor called a meeting of representative citizens and invited to it youth representatives from the city schools. The teenagers were urged to tell why the present situation existed and were asked whether they would cooperate with the curfew law. The boys and girls present at the meeting were "cagey." They stated they would prefer not to answer at that time, but said they would talk with their fellow students and report back to the group in the next two weeks. This they did, and their report submitted at a subsequent meeting stressed the following points:

1. The curfew law would not prove a solution to the problem but rather would lend itself to further violation of laws.
2. The chief reason why the gangs were running the streets was that they had no other place to go.

Photo by R. D. Fraser, Bradford, Pa.

When it was suggested to them that local youth agencies were providing facilities for them, their answer was that they wanted a place of their own where even under adult leadership they could do the things which they could not do in any of the existing agencies.

After lengthy discussions a joint committee of youth and adults was set up to establish a downtown "hang-out" as the teenagers termed it—a recreation center in the nomenclature of

Photo by R. D. Fraser, Bradford, Pa.

"If it's to be our center we're going to have a hand in making it!" They're saying that all over the country these days.

the adults. A downtown empty storeroom was obtained rent free and work was begun. The student general committee organized subcommittees, including one on constitution and bylaws, work committees, a procurement committee, a finance committee, and committees on facilities and publicity.

The center was on its way! The Board of Commerce contributed $1,000 to the project. It was matched by city funds and a similar amount from the School Board. A dance floor was laid, booths were constructed, a soda bar purchased, and a juke box installed on a fifty-fifty basis. Linoleum was laid, walls were painted and papered, murals were painted on the walls, a shuffleboard, table tennis table, and a pool table were obtained, and the center was ready to be opened. Student participation in the work was beyond expectations, and the enthusiasm generated by the publicity through the school brought gratifying results.

For the opening night it was decided to have a "come-and-see" open house for the adults of the community, when all those who had worked on the center could be seen engaging in the activities which would normally be carried on. Many skeptical and nonskeptical Bradfordians stopped in to see the "hang-out" and its activities.

The B-Hive (so named to be representative of the Bradford High and St. Bernard High) officially opened the following evening. The Mayor,

Bradford is a thriving city of about 20,000 people located in the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. Though not a war industry-centered community, as the so-called "oil metropolis of the world," it shares with other busy cities many wartime problems, one of which is juvenile delinquency.

members of the City Council and the Civic Committee of the Board of Commerce, and other officials donned aprons for the evening and put on a "Stage Door Canteen" act. The Mayor presided at the coke bar; the president of one of the women's clubs, along with other outstanding women, waited on tables; a representative of the Community Chest ran the cloakroom, and the secretary of the Board of Commerce racked pool balls The teen-agers loved it!

In addition to the membership cards issued school youths, those out of school a year may secure cards.

The center, which is in charge of a paid worker, is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 and from 7:30 to 10:30. On Fridays and Saturdays it is open from 3:30 to 5:30 and from 7:30 to 11:30. The late schedule also applies after dances, basketball games, and similar events.

An interesting development in Bradford has been the establishment, along with the youth center, of a Recreation Commission charged with developing a community-wide recreation program. This Commission was established with the help of a field secretary of the National Recreation Association, and is now at work. One committee from the commission is developing winter sports facilities, and another is setting up the summer playground program.

Teen Age Nights

By LILLIAN SCHWERTZ

"All in all," says Mrs. Schwertz, Supervisor of Playgrounds and Community Centers, Dallas, Texas, Park and Recreation Department, "Teen Age Nights at our municipal centers have proved over and over again that when young people are given wholesome fun they *do* respond, not only as participants but as leaders."

ACTIVITIES for the youth of Dallas have always been an integral part of the planned recreation program offered by the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. Recognizing current trends and the need for highly organized activities for the teen age level, and further realizing that the regular everyday activities of the past would not adequately serve this need without glamour and a bit of something extra, the community center leaders exerted a "turn about face" in their program planning during these high tension days. At a staff meeting of all leaders, the idea of stressing teen age activities as the current year's outstanding project was unanimously agreed upon. It was decided to have one night during the week at each center, when the entire facilities, program, and leadership would be devoted entirely to teen age girls and boys.

Each leader approached the high school principal in the surrounding community and enlisted his aid. Each principal was asked to submit the names of the natural leaders from the community. These boy and girl leaders were invited by the community center leader to serve on a community youth council. One hundred per cent response followed, for what high school boy or girl, selected

Former club members now in service visit the Teen Age Nights to see old friends

Photo by Dallas Times Herald

to represent his school, wouldn't feel honored to serve on such a committee?

Each center now has its own Youth Council and works independently of the other groups. At the first meeting of a youth council, the recreation leaders presented the idea of a teen age night and asked for discussion. The response was enthusiastically favorable.

Several meetings of each group were held before definite rules and plans were completed. These rules, made by the boys and girls themselves, were in many instances more strict than the leaders themselves would have made them. For instance, the girls decided against the wearing of slacks and shorts. The boys and girls voted against drinking intoxicants, smoking in the auditorium where there would be dancing, and against attendance by any person not between the ages of thirteen and nineteen.

The officers selected at each center became very active in attempting to make their club the best. The secretary and treasurer of one club even consulted another center's recreation leader for permission to study her club's system of keeping books and records! A special floor committee was appointed to handle all problems of discipline and to enforce the few rules that were created. This method has proved most successful and seldom is it necessary for the recreation leader to intervene.

Mrs. Raish believes that Atchison's Teen Town has a number of unique features. In the first place, the boys and girls themselves conducted a bond campaign to raise the $800 needed to furnish their room and provide recreation equipment. Then, too, they held an election strictly according to correct governmental procedure, elected councilmen, and from them chose a mayor. Next, they selected a city manager from among the adults interested in their program. These are a few of the reasons why Teen Town is "democracy in action."

Decorating committees keep the building colorful and attractive, with the holidays, of course, receiving particular stress in the way of decoration. Two of the auditoriums have fireplaces and on cold nights the warm glow from the wood fire plus the rose colored spotlights, strategically placed, is most effective.

Ping-pong, carroms, dominoes, checkers, anagrams, puzzles, and just "talk" are very popular in the clubrooms. Dancing, as always, is the highlighted activity of the teen age night.

Automatic record changing music machines bring the best current hits to the listeners and dancers. A teen age orchestra composed of ten boys is becoming very popular. About a year ago a fifteen year old youngster asked permission from one of the center leaders for a group of fellow musicians to practice in the building one night a week. This permission was given and in a few months the leader invited them to play for the weekly dance. The outcome of that invitation resulted in the boys organizing a dance band known as "Johnny Alexander and his Jive Slingers" which became a definite "must" for the center's weekly dance. They have played on special occasions for the other centers, dances, and as one youngster put it, "they play what we want, just the way we want it!" which, of course, usually means loud and swingy!

During the current Red Cross drive, each center had a Red Cross Night with the weekly 10 cents club dues and the profits from the sale of refreshments donated to the Red Cross. "Sadie Hawkins" nights, Bingo parties and chili suppers have proved most popular, as have regular monthly formals. At one of the teen age nights at the Mexican center, the boys and girls were dressed in overalls and aprons and the building was literally converted into a barn with plows, rakes, bales of hay and other farm implements lending atmosphere to the rustic effect for a special barn dance.

Clever invitations made by the members of the decorating and reception committees are sent each week to different city officials and civic-minded adults, inviting them to drop in and visit their club. These adult visitors are surprised at the efficient and well-mannered way in which the activities are being conducted by the youngsters themselves.

Representatives from each of the eight teen age groups have been invited to serve on a city-wide youth council which is sponsored by the Council of Social Agencies.

The attendance at the teen age night varies from 50 to 100 at the smaller community center buildings, and from 200 to 500 boys and girls at the larger areas.

Teen Town

By MARJORIE G. RAISH

UNTIL LAST MAY Atchison, Kansas, was merely another small town wide open for juvenile delinquency. As the youngsters put it, "There isn't a thing to do any more. You can't go out of town

because of gas rationing. There's no place to go here except beer parlors. The drug stores even close early." Then they decided to do something about it themselves.

After talking the problem over in the young people's council composed of the church young people's organizations of the town, they sent a representative to the next meeting of the Ministerial Alliance to ask for a center where they could dance as well as play games. It was decided that the Y.M.C.A. would sponsor the center with help from the civic and service clubs.

The boys and girls were not easily satisfied. "It's got to be an attractive place—a place we can be proud of," they said. The equipment and decoration committee brought in plans for a clubroom with equipment to cost $800. Sixty teen-agers, a great many without previous experience, canvassed the town selling shares, at $5 apiece, to adults to raise the money. To help their campaign they prepared newspaper and radio publicity. They also scheduled two speakers—a boy and girl—at each club of the city.

In ten days they had raised the money. With this they converted the 30′ x 70′ rarely used banquet room of the Y.M.C.A. into a night club with tiled floor, booths, tables, service counter, stools, and nickelodeon. They equipped one adjoining room for table tennis, another for checkers, chess, and a reading table with youth magazines. Their color scheme of red, white, and blue was most attractive, and colored lights added to the coziness for dancing.

Early in September Teen Town opened with more than 350 members and many interested guests. A week later open house was held for parents and friends and a bang-up floor show of dances and music was presented under the supervision of the high school dramatic department. Within the first month the membership had jumped to 600, and after four months it was nearly 1,000.

Teen Town is open Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. The hours are 7:30 to 10:30 except on Saturday when the closing hour is 11:00. At least one hostess, who must be a member herself, is on hand at all times to check membership cards which may be procured for ten cents a month. The small fee takes care of expenses so that the club is self-supporting. No one who is not a member is allowed to attend on regular nights. An adult sponsor is always present.

Teen Town is democracy in action. It is organized like the city of Atchison itself with a council, mayor, and city manager. To select these officers, dates for a primary and a general election of city councilmen were scheduled. Election notices were sent to all interested young people between the ages of thirteen and twenty inclusive. Both elections were held in the city hall using the city election booths and ballot boxes while appointed teen-agers acted as clerks, checkers, and judges. The five councilmen chose a mayor from among their number and an adult, the Hi-Y sponsor of the high school, to act as their city manager.

The council also appointed the following officers according to their charter: police chief and policemen, fire prevention inspector, Teen Town bureau of investigation, city hostesses and city engineer.

While the main value of the project is, of course, that it has provided a place and a program for the teen-agers of the town, its educational value is also important.

One of the boys on the committee remarked at a meeting in the city manager's office during election, "I've learned more about city government in the past few weeks than I learned in four years in high school." The city manager replied, "You know more right now about it than the majority of adult citizens do."

Peru Opens a Youth Center

"WHAT YOU GOING TO DO?"

"Where shall we go?"

"There's nothing to do and no place to go."

Such remarks could be heard among our young people last spring and early summer. From it all, during the year of 1943, a movement was started by a group of interested citizens for a recreation center for the young people of Peru. Committees were appointed, and appeals were made to individuals and organizations for the fund to establish that much dreamed-of center for youth. A very successful tag day was sponsored and a goodly sum was added to the fund.

The big question was, where, when, and what kind of program and site should be selected. Since no general policy as to the type of program was agreed upon, and no desirable

Of course the Youth Center in Peru, Indiana, had to have an appropriate name, so the Student Council took over and conducted a contest among High School students. The name selected was "School Door Canteen."

site located, the Common Council of the city appointed the Board of School Trustees to act as a recreation commission.

After devoting much time and thought to the subject, the Board decided to furnish a large room in the basement of the old high school building which could be closed off from the other parts of the building. A committee was immediately appointed to select furnishings and supervise the decorating of the room.

The color scheme chosen was a soft green for the walls and ivory for the woodwork and ceiling. Gay flowered draperies were hung at the windows. Tables and chairs were added for games. An attractive and comfortable built-in settee was placed in a nook at one end of the room. A piano and a juke box with the latest records, selected by the students, were purchased by the Commission. A candy machine and a coke machine were placed in the room. Then the room was ready for the youth of our city.

Dedication of the room and official "launching" of the recreation program took the form of an open dance for the high school students in the old high school gym with "Gobs of Swing" from the local naval air station providing music. This dance alone proved that the program had a good beginning and was wanted as well as needed by the youth of our city.

At noon as well as after school, from 3:45 to 5:00 o'clock, many students gather at the canteen. During these hours the canteen is under the supervision of the students. In addition to the canteen, a room across the hall under the stage of the old gymnasium serves as the ping-pong room where paddles and balls are constantly in use, with a line of eager students awaiting their turn.

Since the canteen is for the young people of our community, it was felt they should share the responsibility of setting up the rules, regulations, and general policies for the program of activities. A committee composed of the superintendent of schools, high school principal, dean of girls, dean of boys, president and vice-president of the student body, the presidents of the Girls' League and Boys' League, president of the high school P.T.A., and the mother of one of the students met and set up the general rules. Certain duties were assigned to various groups and committees.

With growing interest shown by the students, it was decided by the Commission to open the canteen on two evenings, Monday and Thursday, from 7 to 10 o'clock, and from 2 to 5 o'clock on Sundays. This type of program now required a paid supervisor. After a diligent search a young woman serving as a group leader at the USO was chosen; she has assumed her responsibility and is guiding the young people in planning their entertainment and program in the canteen.

Junior high school students are not overlooked. Friday evenings are for the 7th and 8th grade pupils who are also welcome on Sunday afternoons. They may use the canteen any other night when not scheduled for another group, with members of the P.T.A. acting as sponsors and supervisors.

In addition to the activities in the canteen we have a broad activity program in the school. Social activities include many mixers and seasonal dances sponsored by various clubs organized for the varied interests of students. Other activities are intramurals, junior and senior plays, rodeo, band, orchestra, glee clubs, debates, and athletics. Organiza-

tions within the school are Girls' League, Boys' League, Junior and Senior Hi-Y Clubs, Girl Reserves, Commercial Club, Future Farmers, and Forensic League. These same activities, on a smaller scale, are conducted in the junior high.

When boys and girls make their own rules for the youth centers, they're very likely to be stiffer than they are when adults have a hand in formulating them. As proof of this we offer the "Musts" and Rules from the youth center in "X-ville," Ohio.

The purpose of the canteen is to permit the young people to organize their own entertainment with the proper guidance from the supervisor and adult committee. Our young people want and appreciate this center. We are planning several more ambitious activities such as a modern square dance, ping-pong tourney, and a jitterbug contest.

Although our program is small, we in charge of the program have wanted to move slowly, setting up the program as the young people want it, since it is for them. At this date, we feel that it is a success. Now plans are to be considered for a much broader and more extensive program which will include summer activities.

Salaries and equipment for the summer program, according to J. P. Crodian, Superintendent of Schools, will be paid for by the civil city. Facilities are supplied by the school city.

"Only Ladies and Gentlemen Over Fourteen Allowed!"

FROM A GROUP of teen-agers in a town of Ohio—call it X-ville—comes the following:

"Musts"

1. It must be a place we can call our own.
2. It must be run by ourselves with all adult guidance kept in the background.
3. We must all cooperate, be one for all and all for one.
4. We must all pay dues asked of us and obey all rules.
5. We must all have membership cards and keep them with us.
6. We must stick with our president as much as possible.
7. There must be friendliness between both boys and girls, no arguments that will cause embarrassment.
8. This must be the best recreation center for teen-agers ever to be started in X-ville.

Rules

1. No smokes, no pop, no hats on the dance floor.
2. Only ladies and gentlemen over fourteen allowed.
3. No drinking or evidence of drinking intoxicating drinks before coming.
4. No smoking by girls.
5. No intoxicating beverages.
6. No rowdyism that disturbs others.
7. Membership limited only to the youth of X-ville.
8. Persons neglecting rules are to be punished.
9. All speech must be kept clean.
10. No one is to enter without membership card unless it's something for outsiders.

With the "musts" and rules comes this question: "Our Association plans to fix over part of the Y.M.C.A. for us, then the Y.M.C.A. said that they would have it fixed over and have it donated to us on these terms: we have to pay all dues to them, but all money earned from our dances, parties, etc., will be our very own. Do you think that it will be a fair deal?"

It's Called "El Rancho" in Beaumont

LAST SPRING the Y.W.C.A. of Beaumont, Texas, through Esther Morrison, secretary in charge of activities for young girls, and with the cooperation and advice of all the high school principals, organized a Youth Council. Two leaders from each class at Lamar Junior College and from the four high schools were selected to help plan a program for the teen age group.

This Council, with Miss Morrison and Reese Martin, Superintendent of the Park and Recreation Department, planned the first party, called the "Youth Roundup," which was held at the South Texas State Fair grounds. Here, in the early evening, games such as volley ball, horseshoes, badminton, croquet, and miniature golf were played out-of-doors. After dark the group moved into a building with a large dance floor, and dancing to

a juke box was in order. Those who did not dance were provided with games in another building. Table tennis, box hockey, shuffleboard, badminton, volley ball, checkers and other quiet games were enjoyed. The party was such a success that the Youth Council voted to continue the "Roundups" twice a month.

Business Men's Studio, Beaumont, Texas

When school started in September, it became apparent that there was need for a center where the young people could come together more often. The Junior Welfare League came to the rescue and secured from the Y.M.C.A. a small unused gymnasium. With the help of the Park and Recreation Department the building was renovated and painted, and the boys and girls were invited to arrange and decorate it to suit their own taste. Soon the walls had been decorated with cleverly designed murals typifying the traditions and life of Texas. During the Christmas holidays the center was decorated with the pine boughs and cones which are native to East Texas.

Then came the question of an appropriate name for the new center. The Junior Welfare League conducted a contest to decide this important matter and offered a war bond as an award. A committee from the Youth Council selected "El Rancho" as the most distinctive name.

"El Rancho" is equipped with furniture and a library of books turned over to the Junior Welfare League when the Civil Air Patrol was disbanded. Another gift was a cold drink and snack bar. Profits from sales at the bar help pay for the services of the employed leader and aid in meeting other expenses. The Park and Recreation Department furnishes a juke box and games such as checkers, skittles, and table tennis. The center is open on Friday nights from 4 to 11:30 P. M., on Saturdays from 2 to 6 P. M., and every afternoon and evening on holidays.

The Junior Welfare League provides a paid worker who is in attendance at all hours when the center is open. The rules, which are simple, are made and enforced by the Youth Council. A membership fee of fifty cents per person for six months is charged; age requirements are fifteen to twenty years. The center boasts of a membership of 700, and the one drawback is that "El Rancho" is too small to permit the full membership to attend at one time.

New Haven's Booster Clubs

THE ORGANIZATION of Booster Clubs has helped enormously to meet the challenge of juvenile delinquency in New Haven, Connecticut, ever since the Park Department began campaigning for an adequate recreation program to keep the children off the streets at night.

Under the guidance of Walter L. Wirth, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, the first Booster

Club was founded with a threefold purpose — physical, social, and civic. Today there are nine such recreation centers in strategic parts of the city, and in the period from November 15 to December 1 nearly 13,000 boys and girls attended these centers. With the city divided into nine districts, seven of the Booster Clubs are located in public school buildings, and two of the recreation centers are in housing projects.

A warning was sounded at the three-day conference of public welfare commissioners and representatives of children's services held at the U. S. Children's Bureau early in February, when a number of the conferees said that some communities fighting juvenile delinquency were putting too much confidence in juke boxes and dancing. It was suggested that while teen age centers are fine as far as they go, only a broad attack on the causes of delinquency and crime will be effective.

Fulfilling the first purpose of the Booster Club—the physical program — basketball is the current favorite of the boys, although in their proper seasons volley ball, football, track, and softball aren't far behind. Besides competitive games there are sports and games that stress individual ability. Such a test is found in the five obstacle courses that have been built and centrally located in the parks. Identical with those used in the armed forces to train soldiers, the obstacle courses have done much to improve the health of New Haven teen-agers.

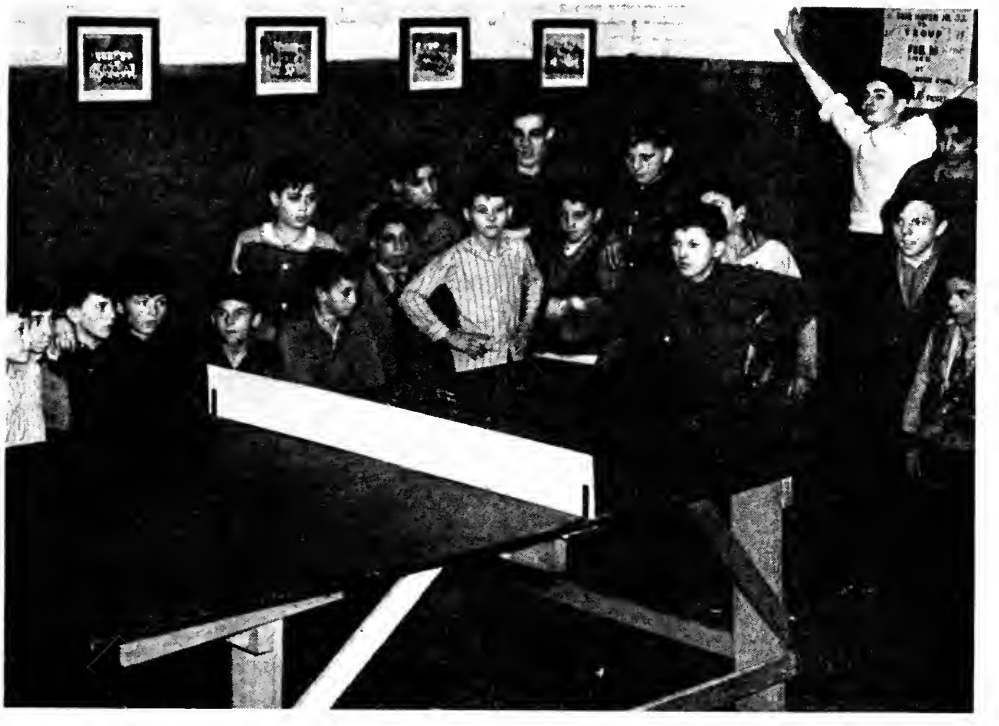
Last summer intrapark competitive games were conducted and park and district champions chosen. A city-wide sport festival at which war stamp prizes were awarded to the winners of the various competitions concluded the summer program.

One night of the five-nights-a-week program is devoted to social activities alone. The girls are greatly interested in dancing, so there are informal classes for those who want to master all the latest steps while the more expert choose partners and really "swing out." Another aspect of the recreation program provides instruction in arts and crafts for Booster Club members interested in learning how to make new craft articles.

When it comes to the civic part of the program, these teen-agers know just what the score is. Not only do they elect their own officers—a president, vice-president, secretary, marshal, and sergeant-at-arms—but they are continually drafting programs, exchanging ideas, debating issues, and thrashing out whatever teen age problems they come up against.

An important objective of the Booster Club plan is to instill a civic pride in the youth of the city,

Business Men's Studio, Beaumont, Texas



"This year," says Frank J. Barry, Director of Probation, "has seen the lowest rate of destruction of property in our public parks, and the Booster Club has probably been the greatest single contribution to the war on juvenile delinquency in New Haven."

to help them appreciate the value and beauties of nature as found in New Haven parks. This is achieved by having each youngster sign the Honor Pledge, in which he promises to respect and preserve all private and public property in the community. The pledge also offers an opportunity for the boy and girl to list the activities that are most interesting to them.

Whereas little more than a year ago many of the boys in the city were spending their leisure time in petty gambling or standing on street corners, today most of these same boys are engaged in healthy activities at the Booster Clubs. In addition, a new bond of friendship between various neighborhoods in the city has sprung up with contacts made through activities encouraging the exchange of ideas within groups.

So successful have Booster Clubs been in New Haven that Frank J. Barry, Director of Probation, recently stated, "This year has seen the lowest rate of destruction of property in

our public parks, and the Booster Club has probably been the greatest single contribution to the war on juvenile delinquency in New Haven."

Teen Club—the Big Brother Way

CLUB ONE-9-TEEN, the brand new youth recreation center which made its bow at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the week of Washington's Birthday is interesting for five reasons:

In downright "snazziness" (to use our idea of a teen age expression), Club One-9-Teen could make any number of commercial spots anywhere sit up and take notice.

It was initiated and presented to the City Council and City Recreation Commission to be administrated by the Young Men's Bureau, junior division of the City's Chamber of Commerce. To make the club possible, the Bureau raised a solid $16,000—the contributions of civic-minded business organizations and individuals — one individual, in particular.

The Young Men's Bureau received incalculable help, according to the president of the Young Men's Bureau himself, when going got so rough as to be almost hopeless, from a single individual—another business man in the city.

Although juvenile delinquency entered into arousing Bureau interest in the project in the initial stages, the term was soon dropped. The project became purely recreational in aim.

What started the Young Men's Bureau off on the project which was to mean seven months of hard work and plenty of discouragement? For one thing, the Bureau is a project-minded crew. Since 1941, for example, the city of Cedar Rapids has had a beautiful swimming pool in lovely Ellis Park, thanks to the Young Men's Bureau. It was their project.

While Cedar Rapids has no acute or soaring juvenile delinquency figures, Navy cadets at Coe College and ASTP students at near-by Iowa University have put week-end recreation places at a premium. The Young Men's Bureau talked about the situation among themselves. At a state meeting of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Cedar Rapids Bureau suggested that the Chamber give some attention to youth problems, and volunteered to take the subject as a project.

President of the Young Men's Bureau, six foot four ex-football player Dick Buresh, appointed a committee of twelve with forty-five members to make a real study of Cedar Rapids' youth activities. Some of the activities studied, in addition to recreation, were employment, parent cooperation, youth leadership. As the survey progressed and results were tabulated, one finding was repeated again and again: There was no really nice place for the young crowd to go.

The survey of youth activities had started in May. It took about a month to polish off. The first of July, the Bureau campaign for a really nice place for the high-schoolers of Cedar Rapids was on.

"Four or five times at least, we hit snags that seemed like the end," Dick Buresh points out in telling the story of the club. After spending weeks looking for the ideal location and making all plans for it, the building chosen for the new club was suddenly rented to another organization.

After a second location was finally found (above a store, next to the city's nicest and largest movie), priority headaches set in. Essential equipment seemed unattainable. After weeks of maneuvering,

"Boy Meets Girl" at the Refreshment Bar

If it's complete modernity you're looking for, you'll find it at the Youth Center in Cedar Rapids, which has a membership of over 2,100

Photo by Cedar Rapids Gazette

the Bureau would finally think an essential landed. Plans would be made accordingly. Suddenly, everything would again become unattainable.

Throughout all the other problems, there were recurring financial snags. Came one that looked like "the end." However, a single business man outside the Bureau organization came to the rescue then—and at other succeeding crises. Other civic-minded organizations and individuals joined the list of contributors.

Finally, after months of day-in-and-out hard work, with much of the endeavor and more and more of the work rolled up by fewer and fewer helpers, things began to materialize. On December 16th, *The Cedar Rapids Gazette* carried the news to the city: "Plan Youth Recreation Center." On December 17th, the chairmen and secretaries of the various youth committees were announced. January 30th the youth governing board detailed plans and announced a drive for membership. Early in February the director and assistant director were hired. At the same time the grand opening week was announced: two nights for a parents' preview; one night for youth at large to "come see." On Saturday, February 26th, the Young Men's Bureau and Recreation Commission were to formally present the club to the high-schoolers. An on-the-spot radio broadcast of the festivities was scheduled. A centrally located, really attractive place of their own had become a reality for Cedar Rapids' high-schoolers.

How is the Club organized? It's definitely the high-schoolers' own. They will have complete charge under the executive committee, which aims to be as representative of the city as the youth board is for the high-schoolers. It includes two members from the Recreation Commission, a representative from the School Board, a representative from the Ministerial Association, a priest, two women at large from different sections of the city, two members from the Young Men's Bureau, two from the Chamber of Commerce, and as an ex-officio member, the director of the Playground and Recreation Commission.

Youth? There are fourteen members on the youth governing board: president, secretary, and two members from each of the committees—membership, finance, public relations, house, entertainment, policy, and employment. Each chairman has twelve people on his committee.

Membership is open to all pupils from the ninth through the twelfth grades at a yearly membership fee of $1.50. Those out of school working may join if they are from fourteen through seventeen years of age.

Temporarily, at least, the Club will be open every day of the week. Monday through Thursday, hours are from 3 to 10, Friday and Saturday, they're 3 to midnight. Sunday, the club will be open from 2 to 10. It is hoped to have a real dance orchestra every Saturday night. The big aim of the Young Men's Bureau, the Executive Board, and the Recreation Commission is, to quote R. L. Sweet, one of the most hard working of the Bu-

reau members, "We want the Club One-9-Teen to be a recreation center, not a juvenile delinquency clinic."

What makes the Club One-9-Teen so "snazzy"? It has the gay coloring and soft lighting the "bobby sock" crowd goes for. The reception lounge with its blonde wood furniture, chartreuse drapes against floor length windows, and mulberry upholstered davenports and low comfortable lounge chairs is as "swish" as the movie scenes. The snack bar serves everything from malteds to hamburgers and shoe string potatoes.

Club One-9-Teen, too, has the contrast of a teen-ager's moods. The second floor is as rustic as the first floor is modern. It has wonderful rafter ceilings and mellow-toned brick walls. It's the sort of place where the freshman boys will feel at home at the billiard or ping-pong tables. It's a place where the whole gang can be the "kids" they really are. It's the games and activities floor—offering everything from pool to Chinese checkers. The first floor is the dancing floor, although "strollers" will be provided on the second floor to offer music for the game-minded. Thirty booths line the dance floor and offer a chummy place to sip a coke or enjoy a sundae.

Dick Buresh has some advice for those cities or organizations considering a similar enterprise: (1) If remodelling and equipping an old building, check equipment available; (2) Check delivery dates; (3) Consider the necessity of satisfying local business concerns; (4) Before any publicity of any kind, before any campaign, there must be a person-to-person drive to get the idea of the center across. In doing this, stay away from argumentative issues. Two of these issues in Cedar Rapids, at least, could have been club hours and membership age. The big problem to iron out, in the opinion of Dick Buresh, is system and method of control.

After listening to the story of how this young men's organization worked everything out while at the time carrying on their own individual business enterprises, our personal advice would be: "Prepare for work." Dick Buresh admitted that one grim night he figured up the time he had spent. Translating it into dollars and cents, it amounted to $2,000 worth.

All workers, however, end on the same note: "It was all worth it! Every minute! Every headache!"

Manhasset's "Juke Box"

By BEATRICE F. LIPSETT

PERHAPS YOU SAW the March of Time movie entitled "Youth in a Time of Crisis." If so, for a few seconds you glimpsed the "Juke Box" of Manhasset, Long Island—the result of a community effort to give the teen-agers a place of their own.

Ours is a community comprised mainly of overprivileged children. Nevertheless, the most frequently voiced request during a round table discussion of their problems was for a "club room of their own—not part of school."

Since the town's Recreation Committee acts as a part of the School Community Association, a request to the School Board for funds for a full-time recreation leader was made—but turned down. We had expected the clubroom supervision and activities to be part of this director's job. However, the committee set out to prove the need for a leader by showing in various ways how much the young people wanted a gathering place of their own.

The use of a long, narrow store was donated and liability insurance secured. Because it was vacation time, and no committees met, it fell to two women to get the work started — one, a talented artist; the other, a mother and housewife. Over a period of six weeks we got together about one hundred boys and girls and a small art committee, all under the schedule chairman.

Ceiling and walls had to be painted, Venetian blinds designed on the windows, benches and barrel chairs made, cushions sewed, juke box covered and painted, piano decorated, lamp shades made, art work done on the walls, and a dozen other "dressing-up" jobs completed.

Because there were no funds, and at that point no definite organization behind us, we worked with scrap wood, old paint — anything to keep costs down. Except for a decorating plan and a determination that the young people must do most of the work to feel the club belonged to them, we were steaming ahead, quite unorganized. It took about six weeks of hard work and concentrated effort to get ready to open.

In the beginning it was felt that the work would be justified if the club served the needs of about twenty-five people—mostly freshmen and sophomores—as the social pattern of seniors is usually

(Continued on page 107)

Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Department

Teen Age Activities in San Francisco

THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT of San Francisco has always sponsored teen age activities at all its units. It is, however, maintaining a number of teen age centers which differ in setup in that the young people themselves plan and conduct their own activities under the leadership of a director.

They Grew Out of Dances

These centers are the direct outcome of the social dances for teen-agers which the Recreation Department has successfully conducted since October 1942 with an average weekly attendance of 1,650. The young people have taken turns serving on the dance committees and have done this in such a capable and enthusiastic manner that it not only assured success for the venture but developed an entirely new and previously unrecognized leadership quality. Many playground directors in the past have inaugurated a junior leadership system, but never to the extent to which it is now being developed in the teen age centers. It is a credit to the young people's judgment that they have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities and are ready and eager to abide by the letter of the law of proper social life.

Teen-agers, being neither adults nor children, yearn for the company of those of their own age and apparently do not enjoy themselves with as much abandon among their younger brothers and sisters. And so the exclusive feature of social dances for the teen age group was encouraged, with members having their own numbered cards, bearing their signatures. To acquire membership one must live in the neighborhood and apply to the director in charge of the center. Approximately 4,000 boys and girls have received membership cards since these dances were organized. Letters are sent to the parents advising them of their children's membership and the day and hour of dances, and they are invited to visit the centers occasionally.

The membership cards must be presented and checked against the books by a reception committee on the evening of the dance before the holder of the card is permitted to enter the "inner sanctum" of the teen age dance. Here dancing such as particularly delights the heart of youth is the order of the evening, to the accompaniment of the usual teen age banter, the meaning of which the average grownup can only guess!

The dance committees

With the influx into San Francisco of thousands of war workers and their families, as well as a large number of teen age boys and girls unaccompanied by parents, the provision of adequate recreation for this group is being given special attention by the Recreation Department. There are now nine centers for the exclusive use of the teen-agers, and many other recreational opportunities are increasingly being made available to them.

The facts given here were taken from *San Francisco ReCreation* (February 7th), issued by the Recreation Department.

usually plan a special theme for their dances once a month. This includes hard-times or barn dances, semiformal affairs; and special decorations such as leis for Hawaiian dances, stars and moons for a New Moon dance, etc. For many of these special events the young people spend weeks in preparation and sometimes the younger children assist them.

The dance membership has also turned to constructive war work in the Junior Red Cross and to the making of toys for child care centers. One group purchased a War Bond for their playground and bought some athletic equipment for servicemen overseas. On one occasion a former playground associate, who had entered the armed forces, sent word that the men in near-by camps were in need of coat hangers, whereupon a drive was held by all the teen age groups who brought in several thousand hangers for the camps.

Many of the playground boys in the armed forces when home on leave return to spend an evening at the dances which they helped organize.

Eight of the dance groups, at the suggestion of one of the committees, participated in the Third War Bond drive by requiring the purchase of a War Stamp for admission to dances. The dance halls were decorated in patriotic colors for the occasion, and girls in the uniform of the AWVS sold stamps. The evening brought a total of $167.35 in stamps and $250 in War Bonds.

These dances have a deep social significance since they help boys and girls find their place in teen age social life. Excessive use of makeup or startling clothes are frowned upon by the group, and frequently individuals must make adjustments before they qualify for the group standard. As a result of participation on the committees, members have developed a more active social as well as school life.

Youthful approval of these dances is enthusiastically expressed by such remarks as, "It's swell to have your own crowd." "We think the dances are swell — something to do on Friday night." "We aren't trying to make money, just want a little on hand for decorations and occasional refreshments. It's all for fun and we don't need a lot of money."

Dance music is provided by automatic phonographs and public address systems. The North Beach group recently presented three records to the Portola dance group for their first dance. At some units orchestras are being formed by the members and occasionaly they play for some of the special dances.

Thirteen weekly dances are already being conducted, with seven more on

(Continued on page 110)

The young people at Sunnydale Center "trip the light fantastic" with obvious abandon!

Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Department

Youth Goes to Parliament

By ELIZABETH SPRIGGE

We are very glad indeed to publish, in connection with the stories of some of the Youth Centers in our own country, this account of the Youth Parliaments which the young people of Great Britain are conducting in an effort to keep themselves informed of world developments.

Miss Sprigge, who is associated with the work being done in the schools and youth clubs of London's East End, is the daughter of the late Sir Squire Sprigge.

NO MATTER how heavy the weight of bombs thrown upon it, no matter how destructive the enemy's flames may be, Parliament—the "speaking place" and shrine of free speech—remains the living core of Britain's great democracy.

Its tradition is of the most ancient and its practice vitally young. Soon after the Conquest, King William I held "deep speech" with his Council, and in the 13th century, when the liberties of the people had been recognized by the signing of the great Magna Carta at Runnymede, this method of governing by conference had earned for the Common Council of the Realm the name of Parliament.

The young people of Britain today have the pioneer spirit. Nobody watching them at work and at leisure, in national service, college, school, club or home could for a moment consider them old-fashioned, fettered by tradition, or in any way stuck in the mud of outworn systems and ideas. Taking a cross section of boys and girls in their teens, drawn from every part of the country, with dissimilar educations, economic conditions and domestic backgrounds, one factor stands out the same in all.

They take nothing for granted. They demand that the shutters shall be removed and the clearest light of knowledge shed on every side of life. Politics and history, religion, art, economics, sex—it does not matter what subject is in mind—they will not accept the tenets of others blindfold. They are unsatisfied until they can see the bare bones for themselves, and on those bare bones they are prepared by patient study to mould the flesh of their own opinions.

This does not mean that the young people of Britain discount the knowledge and experience of their elders. Far from it. They are avid for help, but every lecturer finds that the young now are the most exacting of all audiences because they are so hungry for truth that only pure reason will satisfy them, and the specialist may find it difficult to descend from the top story of the tower he has built in years of thought and study to examine and explain the structure of its foundation. But if he fails to do this, his young audience will be unimpressed by the pinnacles, however lofty and even if crowned with glory.

But youth, searching for its own pattern for the future, does not discard tradition merely because it is old, any more than it extols it for this reason, and so boys and girls have found that in order to enlarge and crystalize their views they can make profitable use of their country's ancient, democratic system of government.

Most youth clubs, whether of one sex or mixed, are run by a management committee of adults and young people together, and subcommittees of the boys and girls themselves. In addition, for inter-club discussions of general affairs, some organizations have instituted central Parliaments to which local clubs send their elected members.

Such Youth Parliaments are, in fact, miniatures of Britain's House of Commons and closely follow its traditional procedure. This experience has taught the members that Parliament, for all its name, is no mere common-room for the airing of views or the listening to one's own voice, but a highly developed organization for orderly debate.

Thus, at the opening session, as in Britain's Parliament itself, the members elect their Speaker, who is the chairman of the House of Commons, and he or she, followed by the other members, takes the oath of allegiance to the throne. Sometimes members prefer to have an adult club leader as Speaker; others elect one of the ordinary members. The Cabinet Ministers are then chosen, partly on specialized interest in or knowledge of specific subjects such as health or agriculture, partly on ability in speaking.

There is plenty of gaiety about these proceedings, but once the offices are settled, all remarks of members must be addressed to "Mr. Speaker in the chair," and no member is referred to by name

but as "my Honorable or Noble Friend, the Right Honorable Gentleman or Gallant Member," as is done in the actual House of Commons.

In only one respect do some Youth Parliaments differ from the mother institution. The members generally speak as Independents rather than as members of a particular political party, whereas in the actual House of Commons, although there are Independents, they are the exception rather than the rule.

"It is not easy to be young in Britain today. Wages may be high, but work is hard and good times and good things are scarce, and the happy life all boys and girls dream of is almost as far from them as a scene in a film. Nevertheless these young people, contending with hard conditions and often separated from those they love, are of their own choice learning to understand the problems facing the world."

In one London Youth Parliament the present "Prime Minister" is a blind boy employed as a stenographer in the Ministry of Labor. He is an active member of his own local club where, among other activities, he enjoys a first class game of chess. This Parliament takes public affairs very seriously. Its "President of the Board of Education," a girl working in the Entertainment Tax Department of the Board of Trade, presented to the House an education bill based on Mr. Butler's "White Paper" (as British Government official publications are called). This she did in a manner which stimulated a constructive debate among the girls and boys, who had their own recent or present education as a criterion of the suggested reforms. Their own ideas were naturally more drastic than the Government's, for that is the tendency of the young. At the end of the debate the House divided in correct manner into "Ayes" and "Noes," and the bill was passed by a large majority.

The "Minister of Reconstruction" is training as an architectural surveyor, so housing and land problems are of natural interest to him, and he was able to produce a White Paper of his own, partly

(Continued on page 108)

The Co-operative Union holds two summer schools in Britain, with about forty-five boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 19 in residence for a week. Discussion groups are most popular at these schools.

Courtesy British Information Services

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

AGRICULTURAL Service by Boy Scouts—1943. 100,000,000 Boy Scout hours were realized in food production and conservation in 1943. Seventy-five work camps of more than five days were reported. The slogan for 1944 is "Produce and Conserve, Share and Play Square." The camp garden, the tree nursery, and the conservation projects will become as important as the swimming pool.

Camps. In 1940 the Federal Forest Service leased for 99 years to the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 11,000 acres of land. The State agreed to practice modern forestry methods, to grow a wildlife crop, and to practice camping. As far as we know, this is the first time that a state has underwritten a public school camp. The Rhode Island Wildlife Federation is planning its second conservation workshop for leaders.

Food. "The Food We Live By; For Use By Young People Interested in Their Own Food and Nutrition Problems." Prepared by the U. S. Office of Education, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1943. 14 pp. Illustrated. Price 5 cents.

"Forest Fires, Prevent." Lumber is essential to our war industries and military efforts. This poster calls for greater care in preventing needless destruction of forests. Size 20" x 28". Free from Bureau of Public Inquiries, Office of War Information, 1400 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

Forests, School. Herberster School Forest, Bayfield County, Wisconsin, harvested $2,600 worth of timber in 1940 from a 40-acre ten-year-old plantation. They expect a similar yield in another ten years. Ohio schools can obtain free of charge from the State forest nurseries enough seedlings to reforest one acre of land.

Ritter, William Emerson. 1856-1944. Born on a Wisconsin farm. Encouraged by an intelligent father. Trained in teaching at Wisconsin State Normal School (1884). Studied under the master-teacher Joseph Le Conte. Harvard, Ph.D. (1893). Friendship with E. W. Scripps, newspaper owner. First director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography (1909). Wrote "The Unity of the Organism" and "The Natural History of Our Conduct." With Scripps founded Science Service (1921) as the institution for making science understandable to the public.

"Science, A Treasury of," edited by Harlow Shapley, Samuel Rapport and Helen Wright. Harper and Brothers, New York City, 1943. An anthology. 716 pp. $3.95.

Science Talent. About 15,000 high school seniors competed in the third annual talent search conducted for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships. A talent aptitude examination and an essay entitled "My Scientific Project" were a part of the examination. The forty fortunate finalists were invited to a five day Science Talent Institute in Washington during March. Eleven thousand dollars in science scholarships was awarded to the forty winners. The project was conducted by Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

"Washington National Monument." Chicago, Illinois. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1943. (Folder, 6 pp.) Illustrated. Single copies free.

Wildlife Federation, Rhode Island. The State Department of Agriculture and Conservation has published the report of the Seventh Annual Meeting. The Federation is made up of sportsmen, naturalists, and educators interested in conservation. A film library, a workshop for leaders, and legislation are featured. 31 pp. Mimeographed. State House, Providence, Rhode Island.

"Wood, New Magic In." Third of a series, published by American Forest Products Industries, Inc., 1319 18th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 33 pp. Free.

"'I shall never make you repeat what you have been told, but will constantly ask you what you have seen for yourselves.' Thus spoke Louis Agassiz at the opening of his School of Natural History at Penikese Island, Buzzard's Bay, in 1873. Of his students, ninety per cent were teachers. Nature recreation, as such, had not then been born. Agassiz, who also said 'Study Nature, not books,' would have gained great satisfaction in seeing so many look to Nature for sheer enjoyment."—*Cap'n Bill.*

WORLD AT PLAY

Courtesy Chester, Pa., Recreation Board

A Day at the Playground

THE FIFTH annual playground pageant conducted by the Department of Public Recreation in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, took the form of a demonstration of a day on the playground. On the program were flag raising, salute, activities of the clean-up squad and safety patrol, games of all types, apparatus play, handcraft, story hour, and similar activities. A handcraft exhibit was set up so that parents and friends might see what had been done on the playground.

"Recreation Is International"

SPEAKING before the Recreation Executives Association of Westchester County, New York, Ford Frick, President of the National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs, recently stressed the importance of recreation in promoting a better postwar understanding between nations. The recreation programs of the future, he stated, will not be county-wide, nor state-wide, nor nation-wide but international in scope, and youths of all countries will meet on a common understanding of good sportsmanship.

"Training which recreation executives represent is symbolic of the democracy for which we are fighting—the right of boys and girls to enjoy life, to play, to think, to say what they think and to meet other boys and girls on a common ground. There is no better place for the practice of democracy than on a playground — no question of color, creed, what your father or mother may do for a living."

"Extending Education"

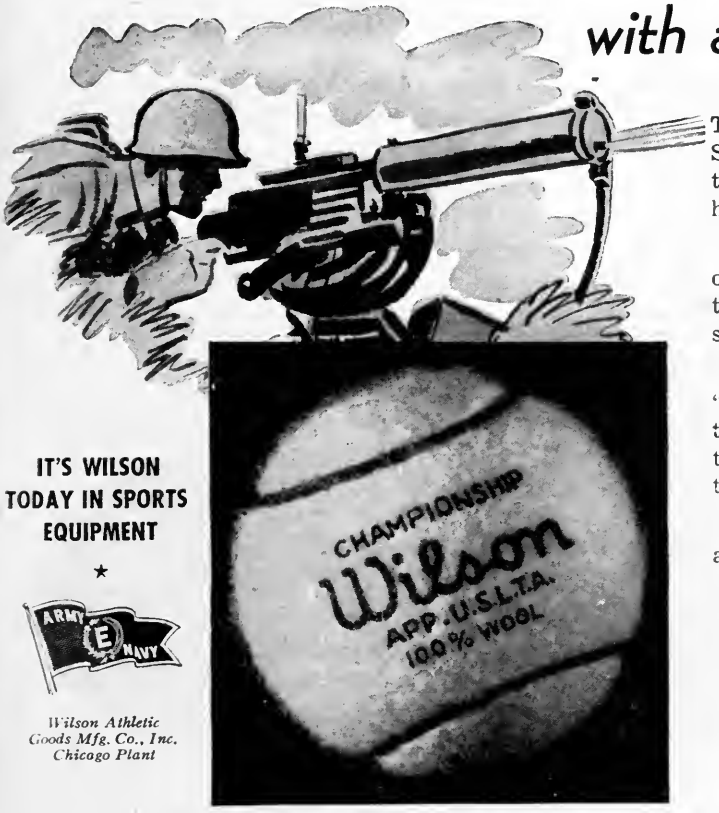
NUMBER 1, Volume 1 of *Extending Education*, a printed bulletin published by National Camp, Life Camps, Inc., 14 West 49th Street, New York 20, appeared recently and will be issued several times a year. The purpose of the bulletin, edited by Dr. L. B. Sharp, is to discover and describe specific projects by which education is extended into the outdoors, and each bulletin will contain a treatment of some significant discussion of camping education in action. A copy of the first issue, published in January and devoted to the teacher training project at National Camp in which Dr. William G. Vinal (Cap'n Bill) is playing a part, may be secured free on application to Dr. Sharp.

Recreation, Incorporated

SERVICEMEN of the 55th General Hospital of Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, are members and stockholders in the newly-formed Recreation, Incorporated, which sponsors entertainment of every description for the men at the camp — baseball, basketball, swimming, movies, dances, parties, etc. Thus far Recreation, Inc., has provided social affairs at the USO, water sports at the Y.M.C.A., basketball games at the Field House, table tennis in the day room, and magazines and books in the recreation lounge. The men who started this club have suggested that other similar units organize a Recreation, Inc., of their own to bolster morale and give services on a large scale as they have done at Camp Robinson.

A DRIVE FOR ROME

with a "Tennis-Eye" Smash



Tough! You bet it's been tough on that road from Salerno! . . . and you can bet there's many a man there who is thanking his stars today for the hours he spent playing tennis.

Many a soldier in the drive on Rome knows he owes mainly to his tennis experience the quick, trained eye, and alert reactions, that often mean safety and success in war.

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TENNIS EQUIPMENT

Youth Farm Volunteers Needed—The need for youth victory farm volunteers for 1944 was stressed at a recent meeting of the Office of Civilian Defense in Washington by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Recreation executives are urged to cooperate in every way in their localities by calling the attention of youth participants in their programs to this need and by offering to help

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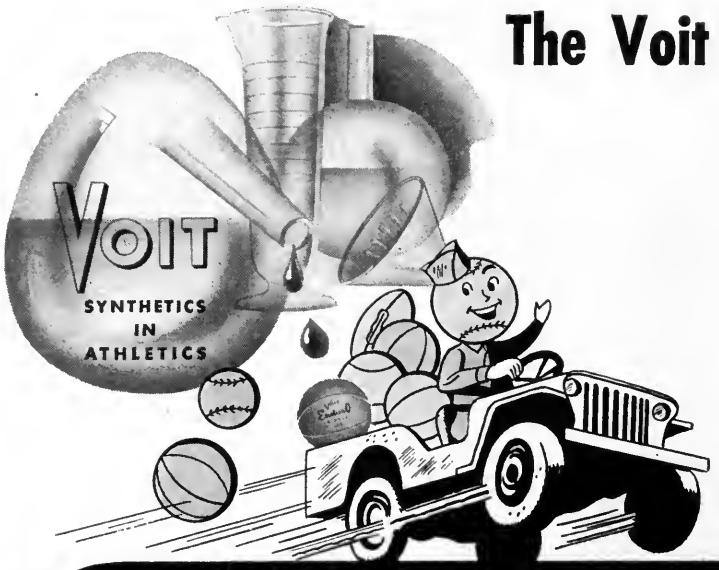

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agricultural leaders in planning their recreation programs for youth during their periods of farm service.

San Francisco's Recreation Budget Increased—The Recreation Commission of San Francisco, California, has recently approved its budget of $1,110,574 for the year 1944-45, an increase of $323,426 over the approved budget for 1943-44. The budget includes special appropriations for teen age centers, school recreation centers, recreation services in war housing units and postwar planning.

Church Leaders Learn to Play—Oklahoma City held a community-wide recreation training institute last January, conducted by Mrs. Anne Livingston of the National Recreation Association. Ninety-five agencies sent leaders to the institute for training. The institute was well organized in advance. An interesting example of preinstitute publicity is that sent out by the Oklahoma City Council of Churches:

"Truism: Churches are dark most nights of the week; Honky Tonks are lighted and open each night.

"Problem: What can church leaders do to increase and improve wholesome recreation at the church?

"Opportunity: Oklahoma City is bringing Mrs. Anne Livingston here for a week's theory and practice in wholesome fun. This is open to EVERYBODY, especially social life directors and leaders of children and youth. Adult leaders, this is for you too! Preachers are urged to attend."

Women's Community Clubs—The Municipal Recreation Commission of Syracuse, New York, in 1943 sponsored nine community clubs in schools, community houses, and libraries. Over 800 adult women who made up the membership contributed articles to the Red Cross, worked for local hospitals, and enjoyed social recreation.

Thanksgiving in Cairo—One of the never to be forgotten memories of the momentous Cairo Conference will be the Thanksgiving dinner at

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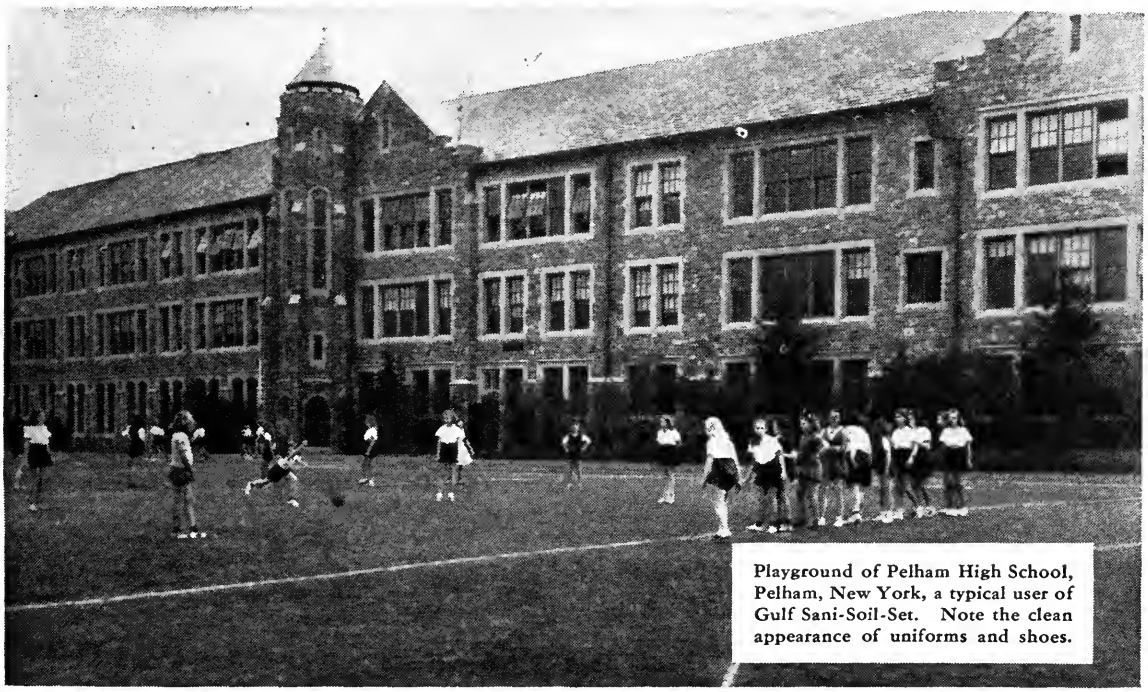

Playground of Pelham High School, Pelham, New York, a typical user of Gulf Sani-Soil-Set. Note the clean appearance of uniforms and shoes.

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Highly Effective—Gulf Sani-Soil-Set completely eliminates dust annoyance immediately after application. No long waiting periods are necessary before the ground is ready for use. The dust allaying effect is accomplished by the action of the compound in adhering to and weighing down dust particles. In addition, Gulf Sani-Soil-Set possesses valuable germicidal properties.

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Diamond Products are on every fighting front; in every branch of the service. The Diamond Calk Horseshoe Company, on the war front as well as on the home front, will continue to do its part until this tremendous struggle is brought to a successful conclusion.

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which President Roosevelt played host to statesmen, diplomats and soldiers. There was the dinner — with everything from soup to nuts — and there was also the fun which followed when President Roosevelt sang a ditty of his own composing. Prime Minister Churchill executed a dance as he waved his cigar and Sergeant Jerry Kelly of Long Island sang "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" to the great delight of the Prime Minister's daughter.

But the party would have lacked its special flavor had it not been for the famous nine piece Desert Orchestra which responded to all the requests made—and they were many—until someone asked for "Pistol Packin' Mama." This, the orchestra said, was too recent for them — they'd been overseas so long.

Says *The New York Times* in commenting on the party, "It was a characteristic American sing, old folks' concert, young folks' concert, with perhaps a little reminiscent whiff of the cooperative joyousness of the Captain's Dinner. It was a thoroughly democratic blowout and will be enjoyed by everybody that reads about it. And it is reassuring to find men who have so many perplexing questions and high responsibilities in their day's work able to take a few hours off for pleasure."

The James H. Galloway Park—Decatur, Illinois, recently dedicated and renamed one of the city playgrounds after James H. Galloway who served as a member of the Park Board from the time the Decatur Park District was organized in 1924 until his death in 1942. The citation, which was read at the dedication, said in part:

"It is fitting that this Park and Playground, situated as it is in his own neighborhood, should bear his name. In his memory and as a monument to his tireless, unselfish and understanding service, this park is renamed and dedicated. May his spirit of service be perpetuated through this memorial—The James H. Galloway Park."

Easter at Oglebay Park—Over 800 people attended the sixteenth annual Easter Sunrise Service at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, where an impressive and colorful service was held arranged by the Department of Evangelism of the Greater Wheeling Council of Churches in cooperation with Oglebay Institute. Four ministers from Wheeling churches participated in the service, and choirs from a number of churches took part.

The summer Vesper Services, held for many years at Oglebay Park during July and August, are being planned for the coming summer. Speakers of prominence from various sections of the country will attend, and other features will be added to make this year the most outstanding yet planned in this popular religious activity at the park.

National Paddle Tennis Tournament 1944—The United States Paddle Tennis Association, in cooperation with the Parkchester Recreation Department, announces open championships in paddle tennis for men and women to be held at Parkchester, a residential community of the East Bronx, New York City. Finals in women's singles and mixed doubles will be held on June 11th; men's singles and doubles on June 18th. Further information regarding conditions of entry may be secured from national headquarters of the United States Paddle Tennis Association, Madison Square Boys' Club, 301 East 29th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

The Joseph Lee Memorial Contest for Recreation Literature

THE SOCIETY OF RECREATION WORKERS of America announces its 1944 Joseph Lee Memorial Contest for Recreation Literature. As in past years, the purpose is to encourage professional recreation workers and college graduate students majoring in recreation to write not so much on the philosophy of the movement as on practical and technical phases of recreation.

The contest is open to members in good standing in the Society and to graduate students majoring in recreation who are certified by the dean of the graduate school in which they are studying.

Further information may be secured from Chase H. Hammond, Chairman of the Joseph Lee Memorial Committee, 1419 East Fourth Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

Boys' Clubs Observe Anniversary—A quarter of a million members of Boys' Clubs of America celebrated National Boys' Club Week from April 10 to 16, 1944. This occasion also marked the thirty-eighth birthday of the boys' club movement centered chiefly in the New England cities in its early days in 1906 when a federation was founded by a group of leaders interested in sharing the experiences and methods of working with boys. Today 240 clubs throughout the United States own clubhouses and camps valued at $22,000,000.

More About Last Summer's Playgrounds

(Continued from page 62)

automobiles, was set up in the Public Square, centrally located in the downtown shopping area. Here mothers intent on shopping were urged to leave their little children as long as four hours if they wished to be away that length of time. The fee was a 10 cent war stamp for any period less than two hours and two 10 cent stamps for a period longer than two hours and less than four.

The playground was supervised by one paid worker and volunteer help from the recreation center's Victory Leaders, a group of thirteen to sixteen year old girls anxious to help in the war effort. The twenty-four girls who volunteered

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I

A. Child Care Training—A Lifelong Asset
B. How a Preschool Child Thinks
C. Personal Health of a Victory Leader
D. Manual Play for Small Children
   1. Sandcraft 2. Paper cutting

II

A. Active Games for Small Children
B. Storytelling
C. Physical Ability of a Preschool Child
D. Playground Health Hints

III

A. Victory Leader's Responsibilities
B. Singing Games
C. Mimetic Play
D. Manual Play for Small Children
   1. Clay modeling 2. Paper cutting and pasting

IV

A. Care of Physical Equipment and Safety Measures on Playgrounds
B. Singing Games
C. What to Do When Johnny Cries
D. Manual Play for Small Children
   1. Paper dolls 2. Sand modeling

V

A. Active Games for Small Children
B. Music and Rhythms
C. Accident Prevention
D. Review of Craft Projects

VI

A. Active Games for Small Children
B. Review of Singing Games
C. Review of Child Care Procedure
D. Conferring of Certificates

So successful was the playground that it was felt the service should be made available in 1944 to other shopping districts, and it was suggested that the business men's associations of the various districts should be approached as possible sponsors. It was thought that filling stations which are

closed because of the war might provide facilities for new checking areas.

And Speaking of Leadership

Last summer a special publicity committee working with the Birmingham, Alabama, Recreation Board prepared a questionnaire asking for volunteer workers. This questionnaire covered very comprehensively all the abilities and talents which the Board considered important in volunteer workers.

The War Neighborhood Club distributed these questionnaires with explanatory letters to all the homes in Birmingham and also to high school and junior high students. When these had been returned and tabulated it was found that approximately fifty volunteer workers had been secured for art, dramatics, music, storytelling, handcraft, and all forms of clerical work.

Among the volunteers were two high school students interested in journalism who gathered publicity from the playgrounds and pools.

Day Camping 1943

(Continued from page 71)

housekeeping duties—gathering wood, clearing up the area and building fires.

The noon meal was the highlight of the day. The children greatly enjoyed the thrill of cooking out of doors. Camp chores were shared by all the girls, who alternated in doing dishes and cooking.

Following the noon meal came the rest hour, for which mattresses and pup tents were provided. The latter part of the afternoon was spent in crafts and nature work. Each unit decided during lunch what it would do in the afternoon. Sometimes it was making a leaf printing or visiting a rock pile in search of fossils.

After the craft period, the children cleared up and made ready for the council fire which concluded the day's program. This was one of the few periods of the day when the entire group was together, and at this time the children were taught many songs and group games.

NOTE: The Division of Recreation, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., has issued a Special Recreation Bulletin (No. 84, April 25, 1944) entitled *Day Camping— A Wartime Asset.* This bulletin will be of interest to recreation leaders planning day camping programs.

Good Neighbors All

(Continued from page 66)

Older boys' and girls' clubs cooperated in the construction of refreshment booths, and the teen age girls created huge backdrops for the stage from brown paper and colored chalk. Photographers took pictures of the first and final rehearsal on the day of the performance. Everyone was breathless.

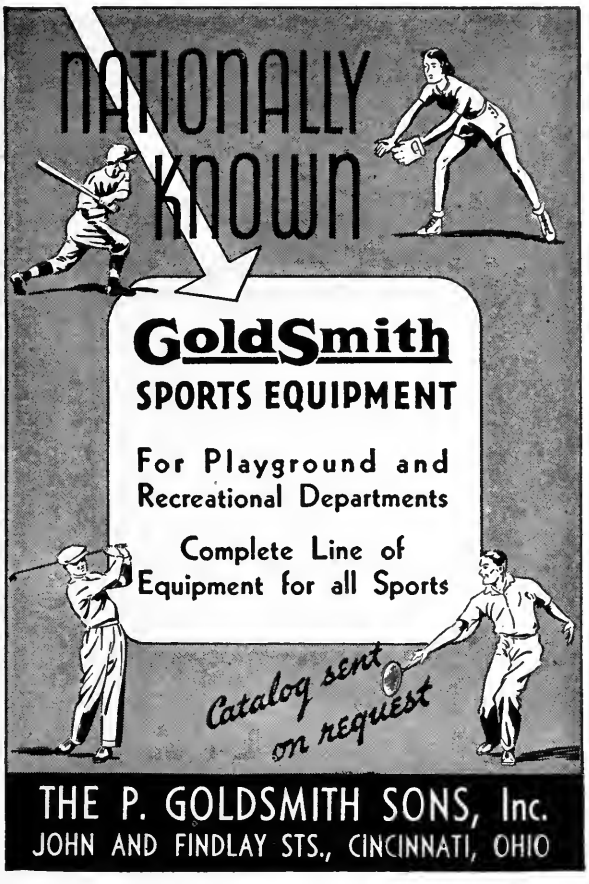
That evening at 7:00 P. M. the theater was crowded. The narrator opened the program in rhyme:

"So much have we liked our trip so rare
With parents and friends its highlights we share."

First of all came the procession of flags carried by one of the boys' clubs of the Center. Twenty-one flags of the American nations were brought forward and placed on the stage with the strains of the national anthems being played in the background.

"It is not for perfection that we aspire,
In dances, dramatics, handcraft, or attire.
If we can bring just a dashing effect,
We will be happy and all we expect."

The program was then under way. A group of Spanish speaking children danced El Jarabe and Las Chiapanecas in native costumes, and the smallest boys and girls, dressed as roosters, pretended they were giving a rooster contest. A Boy Scout troop staged a bull fight. Cuba was represented by a few teen age girls who danced the conga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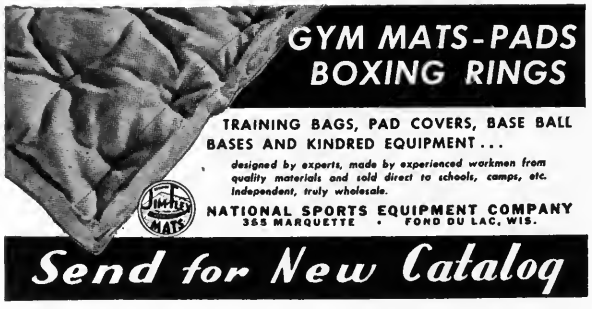
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and by a group who had made their own tom-toms and maracas. The ten year old girls presented the Inca ceremonial dance which they had worked out in the play school project.

The dramatic Argentine tango was done by a staff worker and partner to the tune of El Choco.

"Our West has romantic cowboys,
While the Argentine has clever gauchos."

The "bull" reappeared on the stage while a gaucho tried his hand at lassoing him in the Argentine manner.

From the jungles of Brazil there appeared the "little red jungle boy" and his friends, who acted in rhythmic pantomime the swimming and fishing life of the jungle while the older girls beat upon tom-toms and later presented a rhythmic pantomime portraying the making of tortillas.

The last number on the program was a group of older teen age girls who sang "Who'll Buy My Pretty Violets?" while they threw their violets into the audience.

"Our brief fiesta comes to a close,
Exhibits, please, before anyone goes."

The audience and participants stood to sing the United States national anthem which was followed by the recessional of flags.

The fiesta was over and the crowd of 1,000 people and 100 participants drifted off — many crowded around the food and exhibition booths. Hot tamales were served by a club of Spanish speaking women who meet at the Center.

In an evaluation of the summer's program both the staff and the children felt that it had been a truly creative experience. The theme had been selected by the staff but the activities were planned by the children after they had been given a background from which to work. Discussion in assembly periods and small groups stimulated the children to use arts and crafts, songs, dances, dramatics, and puppets to portray native life in the countries visited. The fiesta was a composite picture of what had been learned throughout the nine weeks' period.

What's Happening on the West Coast?

(Continued from page 79)

ance of every job—from the president of the USO Council to the soldier who repairs a broken lamp plug.

Because of the unevenness of experience and ability in this broad cross section of volunteers, training courses were soon found to be the best means by which both the volunteer and the professional worker could understand each other's responsibilities and functions. It became the director's job to make the best use of the abilities she found and to weld undisciplined enthusiasm into smoothly running teamwork.

In most of the training courses, the first lecture is devoted to an explanation of USO. Later discussions take up the specific details of volunteer work. Personal and psychological adjustments to be made are discussed; the needs of people are explained; the standards to be met are analyzed. The courses are given on the basis of working together rather than telling or teaching, and their main purpose is to raise the level of work done and to give increased security in performing the job. Junior hostesses, especially, who help entertain the servicemen, learn the functions of a hostess in her own home. This helps the girls as well as the men to grow in understanding wholesome social attitudes. Junior hostesses represent a cross section of the population, as do the servicemen themselves. And they help plan, through their own democratic setup, for themselves and for their town. Thus, this experiment in community living will surely have some carry-over result in the postwar world.

Learning is not confined to one training course, but continues on the job through conferences with the professional worker, demonstrations, group meetings, and reading. Programs grow by questioning, watching, suggesting, and working. The volunteer and the professional worker can grow, too, until a mutually appreciated partnership results that is enriching to the individuals, the persons served, and the community itself both now and for many years to come.

Recreation and welfare leaders have faced many brand new and difficult situations as the face of this land has been transformed since Pearl Harbor. Perhaps the challenge presented by the West Coast with its teeming war centers and Army towns, overflowing with men and women from every hamlet in the country, dramatizes the social picture of America at war.

Joseph Lee Day—1944

JOSEPH LEE DAY will be celebrated this year on July 28th. Many cities observed this day in 1943, and it is hoped this year that even more will join the ranks of the communities paying honor to Joseph Lee.

The National Recreation Association will be glad to send material on the observance of the day to any group requesting it and will issue information on ways in which Joseph Lee Day was celebrated in 1943.

We of USO wonder how much impetus we have added toward community planning; we hope that when the war is over we will leave more than a building in the thousands of communities we have tried to help serve. Essentially, it is now up to those communities to decide for themselves how much planning for recreation, health, and the welfare of all they wish to carry on when the guns have stopped roaring and the bombers have stopped dropping their deadly cargo.

Manhasset's "Juke Box"

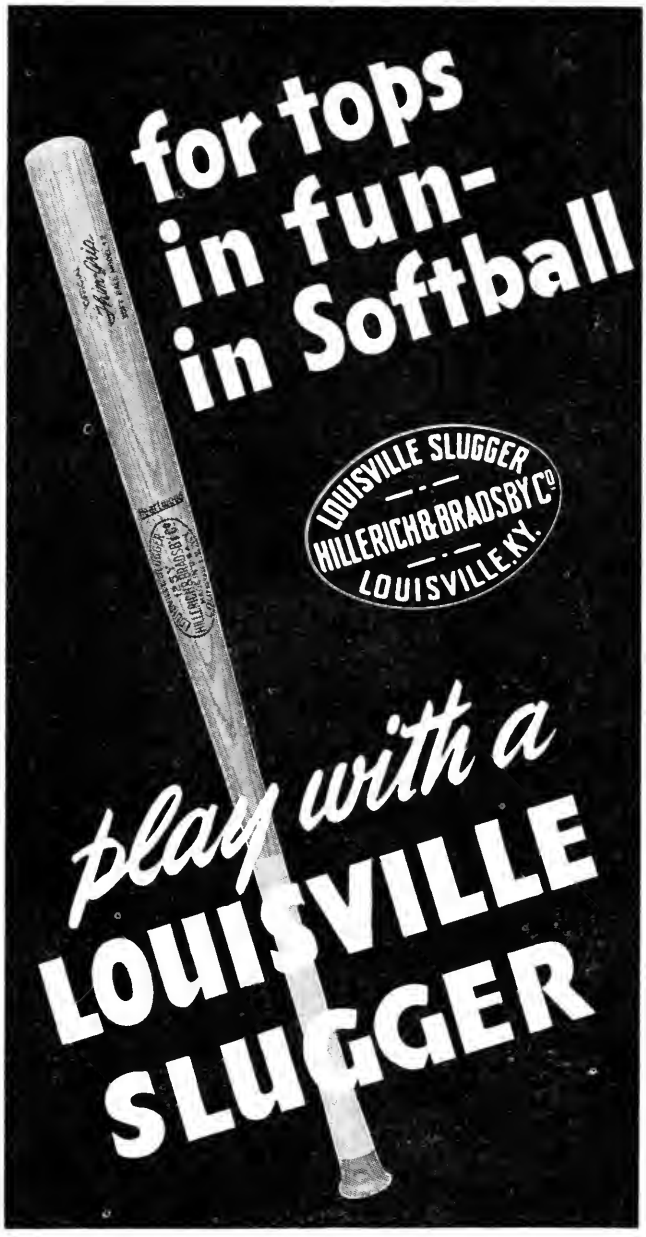
(Continued from page 92)

fairly well set. However, the average daily attendance is now about 100. The Juke Box is open every afternoon and Friday and Saturday evenings. Saturday afternoons is "clean-up time" and many of the teen-agers sign up for painting, scrubbing, waxing the bar, and carpentry. On weekday nights the club is used by special groups of either adults or teen-agers.

Table tennis, boodle ball, dancing to the juke box, drinking at the soft drink bar, playing the piano, looking at magazines, are the day to day activities. The Juke Box has been a boon to those youngsters who have not reached the "dating" stage and can come in with a group or meet friends there.

Senior hostesses—all volunteers—are scheduled by the month and have to be present one session a month or send an alternate. In the evenings, an older couple is in attendance. For certain occasions, such as basketball games, special arrangements are made to keep the club open later than 12:30.

A junior council group has chosen four heads—a general chairman, and the chairmen of the rules, refreshment, and publicity committees. There are no dues for membership except the promise to



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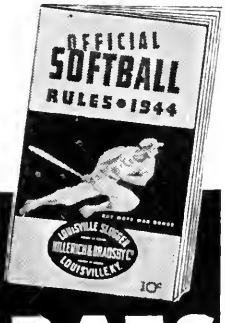

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work one period a month. So far no plan for dealing with those who fail to keep their pledge has been worked out. We want the young people to handle the club themselves. Twice the rules committee had to deal with undesirable behavior and it did a good job.

The Juke Box—its organization and management—has shown us here in Manhasset that young people learn a tremendous amount in the "learning by doing" process. They develop new leaders, become cooperative members of society, and set a social pattern that isn't centered around a bar with liquor. At the same time many parents become acquainted with the needs of their children, and they find out by observation what are accepted social patterns.

Youth Goes to Parliament

(Continued from page 96)

based on the recent reports on these subjects made to the Government by the Scott and Uthwatt Committees.

As with education and health, the members are fully aware of the vital importance of these questions to themselves. It is their determination to know more, and to learn to form and express opinions so that they may in the end make full use of their democratic rights and influence their Government. This leads them to spend hours of their leisure in studying such subjects and often to travel long distances, despite restricted transport and possible air raids to attend the meetings of their Parliament.

The young people sometimes invite Government officials or other authorities to visit their House of Commons at "Question Time," and they always make sure that on these occasions they have studied the subject in hand sufficiently to make the best use of the presence of an expert. And it is seldom that the expert leaves such a gathering without a sense of inspiration.

Some foolish people talk of the future being in the hands of the young. They themselves know very well that it is in the hands of the young and old and middle-aged together, and they will give their wholehearted support to those who help them to qualify as responsible citizens and keep alive their hope of a better world and their determination to play a worthy part in it.

Perhaps some of these members of Youth Parliaments will take their seats one day in the time-honored, war-scarred halls of Westminster on the

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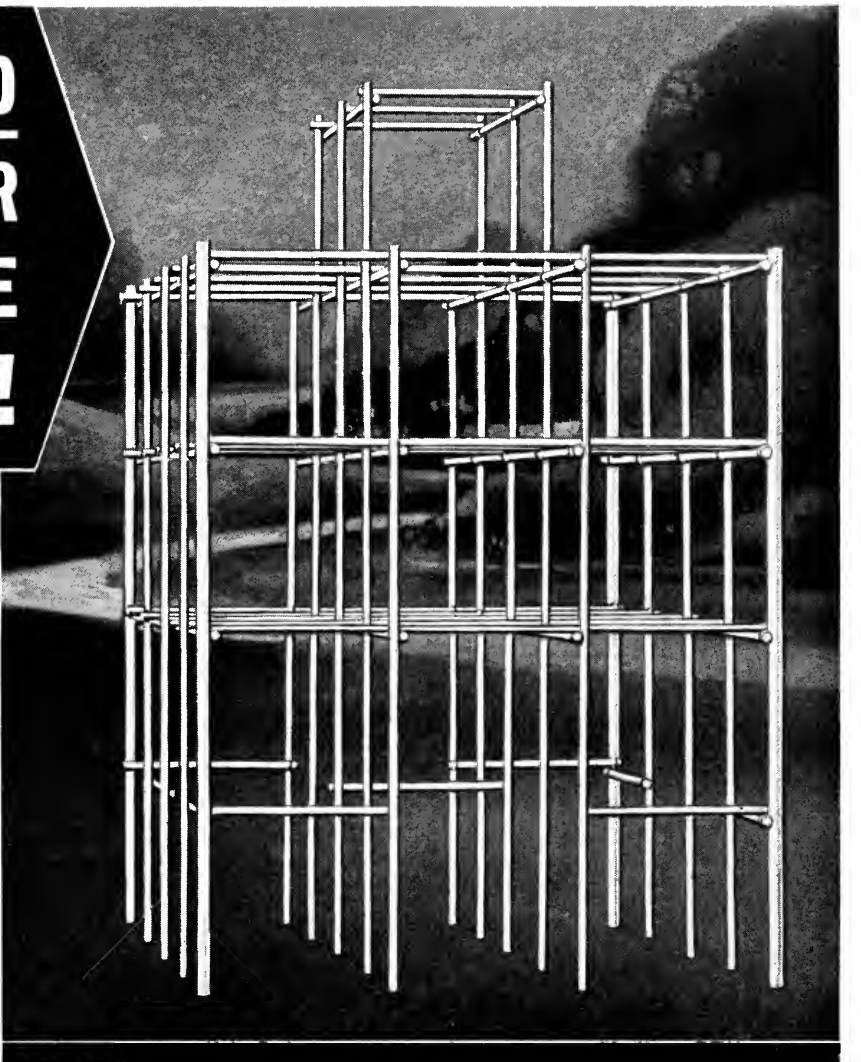

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banks of the Thames, watched over by the Tower of Big Ben, but whether they do or not, the apprenticeship they have voluntarily served in their own Parliaments will stand them in good stead. They will understand the structure of their own government and be able to use their votes with honesty and confidence.

Teen Age Activities in San Francisco

(Continued from page 94)

the calendar to start as early as possible.

Other Activities

Social dances are by no means the principal recreation offered by the San Francisco Recreation Department for the teen age group. There is a schedule of highly diversified activities for this age group which offers folk and ballet dancing, dramatics and puppetry, the girls' choir, the Junior Civic Symphony, playground singing groups, photography, junior museum activities including the building of model planes, etc., handcraft which consists of weaving and Junior Red Cross work, victory gardening on playground plots, and a complete program of athletics with special seasonal tournaments. There are also many special events throughout the year, especially during school vacation when playgrounds are divided into six districts which meet together for picnics, hikes, roller skating parties, and similar activities.

Circus Time in Norfolk

(Continued from page 75)

crepe paper. A bandstand constructed for the occasion was placed between the two enclosed rings. Seated on the stand was a band of thirty music students organized by a local music teacher.

Dancers from a local dancing school took part in the acts and a pony ballet was given by children of the Benmorreell Navy Housing Project. Dressed in white ballet costumes, they rode horses made of wood decorated with red pompons and red reins.

The program consisted of assembly, side shows, a parade, and the big show of twelve acts. In the side shows were hula dancers, Siamese twins, a wild man, a thin man, a fat lady, a snake charmer, two dwarfs, a fortuneteller, wild women, a two-headed sailor, and a sword swallower. The twelve acts of the big show included the following: hula dancers, pony ballet, Arabian tumblers, angel chorus, daredevils (tightrope walkers), ballet, elephant dance, acrobatic dance, clown act, toe dancing, monkeys-on-skates, and a clown band.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest of the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Alabama Social Welfare, February 1944
Recreation in a Rural County, by Grace M. Ebert

The American City, March 1944
Bicycle Paths and How to Design Them, by Roland C. Geist
Denver's Theatre of Rocks, by C. Ranmer
Enlisting Public Support for a Park Board, by Earle K. Eby

Architectural Record, March 1944
The Community School, by Arthur B. Moehlman
The School in the Neighborhood Center, by Richard J. Neutra
Two Schools Designed for Community Use

Beach and Pool, February 1944
Reconditioning Your Pool, by Wesley Bintz
Teaching the Adult Non-Swimmer, by Robert Royer

The Journal of Health and Physical Education, March 1944
Recreation—Second Front for Democracy
Swimming Programs After the War, by Grace B. Daviess

The Nation's Schools, March 1944
Schoolhouse Planning

Parents' Magazine, April 1944
Play Reveals the Boy or Girl, by Amram Scheinfeld
We Can Cut the Cost, by Mark A. McCloskey

PAMPHLETS

Bomb Ball, by J. V. Lamberton
Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts

College Unions, a Handbook on College Community Centers, by Edith Ouzts Humphreys
Association of College Unions, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

Fourth Annual Report, Department of Recreation of the Town of West Hartford, Connecticut. March 1, 1943—February 29, 1944

Michigan Recreational Camp Survey
Michigan State Planning Commission, State Building, Lansing 13, Michigan

Minnehiker Yearbook. 1943
Published by the Minneapolis Municipal Hiking Club, 325 City Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Municipal Lifeguard Training Course
Department of Parks, New York

Musical Recreation, by Dr. Lili Heimers
New Jersey State Teachers College, Montclair, New Jersey. Price 25 cents

Play Yards
Alton Recreation Department, Alton, Illinois

Victory Gardens for Community, Home, School
New Jersey State Teachers College, Montclair, New Jersey. Price 25 cents

Who Is Delinquent?
American Association of University Women, 1634 I Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. 5 cents per copy; $4.00 per hundred

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Recreation for All Ages

Part I and Part II. Compiled by Lili Heimers and edited by Margaret G. Cook. New Jersey State Teachers College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. $1.00.

THIS MIMEOGRAPHED WORK in two volumes represents a list of teaching aids dealing with all forms of recreation. Included are charts, exhibits, field trips, films, slides and film slides, maps, pictures, posters, recordings and transcriptions, as well as publications.

The material is classified under Administration and Leadership in Recreational Activities; Camping, Hiking, and Scouting; Parties, Dramatics and Festivals; and Hobbies. Recreation workers will be interested in knowing that this comprehensive listing of source material on recreation is available.

Juvenile Delinquency

Special issue of *Survey Midmonthly,* March 1944. Survey Associates, 112 East 19th Street, New York 3, $.30.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY is the subject of the March 1944 issue of *Survey Midmonthly,* and it presents a challenge to concerted action now and after the war. The problem is stated by Austin H. MacCormick in the first article, "The Challenge to All of Us," in which he points out the responsibility of the whole community. "How to Begin" is the title of an article by Bradley Buell, while Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, two of the country's outstanding criminologists ask "What Do We Know About Delinquency?" Genevieve Garbower takes us on a trip to ten communities and gives us a bird's-eye view of the situation. These and other articles make this issue a significant one for all the community groups who would take steps at once to meet the challenge of rising wartime delinquency.

Thirteen By Corwin

Radio Dramas by Norman Corwin. Henry Holt and Company, New York. $2.75.

"THESE THIRTEEN RADIO DRAMAS are all perfectly at home on the air, all plays to be heard not seen," to quote Carl Van Doren in his introduction to this collection. They run the gamut of sentiment, fantasy, broad comedy, pathos, applied mythology, and lofty vision.

The Thinking Hand

By Ellsworth Jaeger. The Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, New York. $1.00.

HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE mimeographed craft suggestions by the Curator of Education of the Buffalo Museum of Science which have been brought together for the convenience of all who are interested in a program of fundamental crafts that untrained hands may undertake with materials easily secured. Most of the projects presented have been tried and proven in the Museum's adult and children's educational work.

The Art of Illusion

By John Mulholland. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $2.00.

"MAGIC FOR MEN TO DO" is the subtitle of this book which contains a number of fascinating tricks with playing cards, coins, and pieces of string. There are also instructions for mind reading or thought transference. The explanations given are simple and easy to follow.

Games to Make and Play at Home

By Joseph Leeming. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. $2.00.

MOST OF THE GAMES discussed in this book require nothing more than cardboard, beans, cards, pieces of wood or stone. Both indoor and outdoor, old and new games are described, and there are games for one or two or a large number of players. Directions for playing the games as well as making them are given.

Dancing for Fun

By Dorothy N. R. Jackson. University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. $.50.

THIS IS A COLLECTION of partner dances based on popular music. The dances fall into two groups—the social mixer type and the ballroom dance type. The collection will be more valuable for experienced social dance directors than for volunteers or beginning leaders.

Recreational Plans for Missionary Volunteers

Review and Herald Publishing Association, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C. $2.25.

DESIGNED FOR USE by missionary volunteer secretaries and leaders of missionary volunteer societies, this book stresses games rather than dancing of any kind, and suggests bibliographies of temperance material and talks to juniors. There are many suggestions under social gatherings and indoor games, however, which will be of interest to all recreation workers.

Elementary Science Readers

Prepared by the WPA Pennsylvania Writers' Project. Albert Whitman and Company, Chicago.

HERE IS A SERIES OF BOOKS introducing the reader to various fields of science. In them everyday phenomena are explained with scientific accuracy but in words simple enough to interest readers in the third and fourth grades. Some of the titles in the series are: *The Story of Cement; Aluminum; The Story of Paper; Aircraft; Warships; The Story of Copper; The Story of Glass; Wind, Water, and Air; Radio; Motion Pictures;* and many others. The price of each booklet is 50 cents.

Pictured Geography in Story and Picture.

Story by Lois Donaldson. Pictures by Kurt Wiese. Albert Whitman and Company, Chicago, Illinois.

At this time when the Central and South American countries are assuming so much importance, this series of attractively illustrated books is very timely. Each book, the cost of which is 50 cents, presents in story and pictures Costa Rica, Nicaraugua, Salvador, Uruguay, Colombia, Guiana, and Paraguay.

The Outdoorsman's Cookbook.

By Arthur H. Carhart. The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.95.

People who want to cook for themselves and enjoy the results will find plenty of help in this book. Nutritious menus are given for each day of a trip and provision lists are planned for every type of trip from the roughest back-pack trip to the most luxurious. Camping equipment is thoroughly covered and every detail of preparing food in the open is described, including the type of stove to use and the best methods of building fires.

Human Aspects of Multiple Shift Operations.

By Paul and Faith Pigors. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. $.75.

This study of the Department of Economics and Social Science of Massachusetts Institute of Technology is of unusual interest and value to industrial management and to those responsible for employee recreation and other service programs. It is of interest that this technical study should give the splendid emphasis it does give to the human factors involved in production of off-shift workers.

The report points out that the root of the industrial worker's difficulty in regard to weekly patterns is that he is living in two communities that are run on different time schedules. The study points out also that the possibility of including recreation after work, and sleep after both, every day is more important for industrial workers than for people whose work is more rewarding. The report covers carefully the adjustment problems faced by workers in odd shifts because of the difficult adjustments of their recreational and leisure-time living.

Appendix A of the report lists suggested recreation activities for industrial workers based on *Recreation for War Workers,* published by the National Recreation Association.

Stunts and Tumbling for Girls.

By Virginia Lee Horne, M.S. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $3.00.

Prepared as a teaching manual to aid the physical education teachers in enlarging their knowledge of stunts and tumbling, this book describes several hundred individual, partner, and group activities arranged in order of difficulty. Special safety measures for each activity are stressed. There are many illustrations.

Physical Fitness.

By J. B. Fitzpatrick, B. A., M. Ed., and E. W. (Joe) Griffiths. The Copp Clark Company, Limited, Toronto, Canada. $2.50 plus $.16 postage.

This textbook of physical education for schools and clubs is designed to meet the needs of the teacher in the small school, though there is much in it which will be of value to teachers in larger towns and city schools. The writers have tried to make their directions so clear and definite that even an untrained person would be able to follow them, and free use has been made of diagrams. Activities are included which for the most part require little equipment or for which equipment can be made at small cost. Suggestions and plans for the construction of equipment are included.

A Basic Book Collection for Elementary Grades.

American Library Association, Chicago. $2.00.

This collection of titles has been prepared for curricular purposes and for recreational reading. It includes books for the child who reads easily, for the child who finds some difficulty in reading, for the child who likes to read, and the child who may develop an interest in reading if he can find the right books. The titles are grouped under a number of classifications such as Fairy Tales—Folklore; Legends, Sagas; Suseful Arts; Fine Arts; Travel and Geography; Fiction; and Picture Books and Easy Books. Throughout the list grade levels are given for each title.

Plays for Americans.

By Arch Oboler. Farrar and Rinehart, Inc., New York. $2.50.

There are thirteen nonroyalty plays in this collection and all of them concern the United States of America and the war, though they are not war plays in the strict sense of the word. They are about people on the home front who are working hard to help win the war.

Bird Houses You Can Build.

Popular Mechanics Press, 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago, $.25.

Here are several designs for bird houses which should meet the requirements of almost any lover of birds. Among them are colony houses, four-apartment log cabins, and single-apartment homes of rustic design made from short sections of logs. The pamphlet is profusely illustrated with pictures and diagrams, and instructions are given which can be easily followed.

Morale for a Free World.

American Association of School Administrators, 1201 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, Washington 6, D. C. $2.00.

The Twenty-second Yearbook of the American Association of School Administrators is devoted to morale, not only for America but the whole world, and for a world at war and in peace.

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I Have Put Myself Out of the Game

"I HAVE PUT myself out of the game," were the words of a four-and-a-half-year-old kindergarten girl, as she stepped out of the circle. She knew the rules; she knew she had forgotten them. Cheerfully and smilingly she dropped out. This was self-discipline.

In tennis no one but the player may be conscious that he has violated the rules, that he committed a fault, that the ball was slightly over the line, but the player scorns to take advantage of his opponent because no one saw. He throws the next point, serves out of the court rather than profit because the official did not see. The player himself decides. His action is automatic. He does not debate with himself about it. This is what is expected, what the player expects of himself.

There are games in which such traditions have not been built up, where it is fairly customary to plan to profit by wrong decisions of the official in charge.

There are families, at least a few, where for two generations traditions and discipline are such that penalties for certain actions have been accepted as a matter of course, as inevitable, as the way things are. The children grew up to recognize that they lived in an orderly world where there were traditions and principles. The children had freedom, but if they violated the traditions they knew they took the consequences, and expected to. There was a very considerable sense of security in knowing that one lived in a world that was fairly fixed, where chance did not prevail.

There is no greater problem before recreation leaders this summer and all summers than this: to build such traditions, such an atmosphere that discipline becomes self-discipline, that youngsters say to themselves without resentment, "I put myself out of the game."

HOWARD BRAUCHER

Henry [illegible] Library
MacMurray [illegible]
Jacksonville, Illinois

June

Photo by W. F. Sanfo

A few of the fifteen hundred girls of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, who, through the manifold activities of the Girls' League Association, are learning how to take their places as citizens and mothers of tomorrow. (For story see page 156.)

"Having a Wonderful Time"

The directors of the various activities' departments of the Recreation Department, Park Commission, Memphis, Tennessee, collaborated in the preparation of this interesting article on the city's playground program.

DOWN IN Memphis, Tennessee, we believe that if the playground is to be the recreation center of a community, the program should include not only sports and handicraft but also many special events that stir up enthusiasm and bring in those outsiders who are reluctant to enter into the regular program.

So in our summer playground program there is a place for the "Special Day," with novelty features and interesting events introduced into the regular program to make the playground seem alive with fun possibilities. An entire day is set aside for this major project and, called "Special Day," it is just that!

Flag raising ceremonies at 9 A. M. are different from other days. Instead of little North American boys and girls around the flag pole, we may find a group of South Sea Islanders, Indians, Pirates or Senoritas and Senoras! Another week we may find a small collection of live animals ranging from snakes to donkeys, each accompanied by his proud owner. It all depends on just what special day it is, for the children keep in character with the assigned theme in all of their activities until the playground closes at night with a special program in which adults also participate.

"Salute to the Armed Forces"—Their Theme

These special days of the summer playground program are in keeping with the assigned theme of the playground project. Last summer in our "Salute to the Armed Forces" program we presented in turn —

The shelves look a little bare because 45 children have just taken toys from the Toy Lending Library maintained by the Recreation Department of Memphis

Over There—Flag Day celebration and Know Your Neighbors program, with a progressive games party and barn dance in the evening.

Pets and Parades—followed by the selection of the playground mascot pet on all playgrounds, and a blue ribbon awarded each contestant.

Patriotic Week—embracing the Fourth of July celebration, with a colorful pageant on each playground.

On the Land—with Hawaiian festivals in commemoration of the annexation of Hawaii, and playground Army day, honoring former members of the playground band who are soldiers or "Land Forces," featuring the first of the armed services programs.

In the Air—a tribute to the Air Corps, including "Castles in the Air," storytelling festivals, "Enchanted Week," when each playground presented its own interpretation of the playground pageant, Robin Hood, and a city-wide model airplane contest at Overton Park.

Over the Water Day—The Navy and Marines were honored on Over the Water Day, when the playground children not only sailed the seven seas in imagination, but held miniature boat regattas and wading pool carnivals at which they selected Miss and Master Playground Water Baby, a Playground Pirate, a Baby Sailor, Soldier, and Marine, as well as a champion water pet to represent the playground at the annual city-wide contest at Overton Park on Saturday, when Miss and Master Playground Water Baby were crowned and awarded silver loving cups. The sixth annual Joseph Lee Day, with a dragon boat festival, Chinese holiday and playground lantern parade and boat carnivals, was equally colorful.

We Go Athletic — Safety and Sports Week stressed health for victory with a play, Olympic parade of athletes, sports tableaux, boys' tumbling exhibition and girls' dancing, teen age teams' tournament, and an adult croquet tournament at Overton Park on Sunday.

Westward Ho — This brought rodeos, trading posts, barn dances, and Wild West shows, with everyone in cowboy, cowgirl, Indian and pioneer costume.

And at the End!

The final special day, before the big playground festival at Overton Park climaxing the end of the summer playground season, is also the climax of the individual playground special days. "Salute to Our Armed Forces" on the land, in the air, over the water, and around the world with Uncle Sam, honored all former playground boys and girls serving in the far corners of the earth.

The program consisted of an exhibition of playground pageant dancing, tumbling, stunts and summer playground projects on each playground. It was a miniature play festival for the entire community, serving as a preview of the big and final day the following week, when all the playground family gathered for a whole day of fun at Overton Park.

The first honor trophy for special day programs was awarded to Overton Playground. There, almost within the shadow of the municipal open air theater, the children had an outdoor theater of their own. Every Sunday afternoon their series of children's plays received an enthusiastic response from an audience of several hundred spectators. When the winter program began, the young stock players continued their plays at a near-by community center. When the good old summer time rolls around again they will be ready with a new series of open air shows including, *The Emperor's New Clothes, Tom Sawyer's Treasure Hunt, Little Black Sambo, Peter Rabbit,* and a group written version of *Gulliver's Travels.*

For Adults, Too

Not forgetting the adults in the playground neighborhood, certain playgrounds are open during the evening hours and on Sunday afternoons for special recreation activities which appeal to grown-ups. These activities consist of group games, square dancing, and athletic games for physical exercise; contests, community singing, music and dramatic programs for mental relaxation, with some handicraft activities for manual dexterity. War workers are encouraged to participate in all these activities, and the entire program is built up with morale, welfare, and service as chief considerations in meeting the changing needs of the adults in the playground community.

Not all adults are active participants. Some overburdened mothers find it restful just to "look on," with a baby in arms and a couple of toddlers clinging shyly to their skirts, while a tired Daddy sits propped against a tree, pipe in mouth, absorbing new strength for the world's work from contact with nature. The young men, and those not so young, enjoy softball on the playgrounds and baseball on special athletic fields. Mixed volley ball,

Children of Overtona and South Side Playgrounds strike a practical note on the Playground Playtime Program over Radio Station WMPS with their original play—"Every Fire Today Is Sabotage."

horseshoe pitching, badminton, tennis, paddle tennis, and croquet are equally popular for men and women. Each individual seems to find recreation, in his own fashion, from the facilities offered him on the summer playground program. To keep in touch with needs, playground directors attend meetings, when possible, of the various civic clubs and parent-teacher associations; they know the different churches and ministers, and they are familiar with every situation that may, and does, affect the playground to which they have been assigned.

Each playground has an adult advisory committee or group that helps the playground staff in conducting and working for more and better leisure-time activities for young and old alike. This is supplemented by play leaders and Courtesy Clubs which have been formed on the playgrounds to aid in the conduct of the children. Through them the children learn the cooperative spirit which leads to good citizenship. The play leaders are older girls and boys who have been selected by the directors of the playgrounds for their leadership and fair play qualities. They assist in group games, assembling the children on time for various activities, and are the director's right hand. They are frequently the playground directors of the future.

The Recreation Department of Memphis believes that each child has a heart full of melody and rhythm, and that he should have a chance to express it. So twice a week last summer a dancing and singing director visited each playground with the little red piano securely fastened in the station wagon. The children's repertoire of songs was unlimited and included everything from Stephen Foster ballads to the latest on the Hit Parade. Each playground had three official songs—a playground, a safety, and a project song for which the lyrics were written by the children themselves. They were sung on special night programs and competitively between each playground on play festival day. In 1943 the project song was the official song of the branch of the armed forces represented by each playground.

In the dancing class the children were taught to interpret music, and many of them knew twenty-five or thirty rhythms. Even the tiny babies began to march when they heard the "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers," or spread out their beautiful wings like butterflies when the pianist played "La Papillon." Last summer the dancing classes were

really rehearsals for the playground pageant, Robin Hood, and after the preliminary exercises each playground would start in on its own individual dance—Ladies of the Court, Milkmaids, Jesters, and others. The boys became Robin Hoods and staged realistic fights with quarter staves and bows and arrows which they made themselves. When it was time to start for the next playground, the pianist played "Coming Thru the Rye," the children curtsied, marched by the teacher, said goodbye, turned a cartwheel, and were off for another activity such as the handcraft or creative play program.

Service Activities

This program was designed to give the children a share in the war effort, and the theme, "A Salute to Our Armed Forces," was just what the term implied.

After each playground had selected the branch of the armed services which it wished to represent, the creative play classes began the fun of constructing the three main projects of the summer. These consisted of a bond booth, the insignia flag of the service represented, and a wooden back scrapbook containing all the available pictures and information about the service selected.

The bond booths were constructed of all types of scrap lumber and corrugated boxes salvaged from the neighborhood of the playground. The decorative mediums were varied and the designs patriotic. The booth was used in the weekly sale of war stamps and bonds to the children of the neighborhood. A total of $21,983.15 in war bonds and stamps was sold on the playgrounds during the summer of 1943.

The silk flags, 3′ x 5′, which are made by the playgrounds each summer have become an institution not only in our Department but in the city and surrounding country as well. The office is deluged with requests from various civic organizations to borrow the group of Pan American flags made in 1941, or the United Nations set made during the summer of 1942. To these groups was added last summer the insignia flags of the armed forces. Each flag bears the insignia or, in some cases, is a reproduction of the official flag of the branch of the service represented by the playground. The Infantry flag consists of crossed rifles of gold on a blue field. The U. S. Naval Academy and U. S. Military Academy flags are reproductions of the official insignia. These flags are carried by children in many parades in which the Recreation Department takes part.

When the last touch has been added to the wooden scrapbook, everyone on the playground comes to admire. Some books are works of art inside and out, and contain a store of knowledge of the various armed forces. All book covers are made of plywood, 9½″ x 13″, so that standard 9″ x 12″ construction paper may be used for pages. The backs are decorated with letters and cutouts of wood, leather, felt, and tin. The Book Committee compiles all information and writes explanatory passages. Playground artists make the book interesting with illustrations. Many trips are made to the local Recruiting Offices for pamphlets and information freely given by the servicemen in charge.

Sand boxes on all playgrounds were filled during the summer with models of various insignia, boats, planes, and tanks. At the play festival at the end of the summer season, the sand modeling contest was held under a big green tent. Two children from each playground modeled in the sand some object which pertained to the branch of service which their playground represented.

All projects, as well as individual handcraft articles, were displayed by each playground at the play festival under a separate tent bearing the name of the playground and flying an American flag and the insignia flag.

Through the theme, "A Salute to the Armed Forces," the playground children, in seeking information, talking with servicemen, and constructing the various projects, have gleaned a clearer and better view of our war effort.

Still another war effort by the playground children was the tin can collection, and they collected a total of 179,594 tin cans during the summer season. For the play festival, a throne was built by each playground in front of its tent. Each throne had a canopy and seat on an elevation with the names of the Tin Can Prince and Princess (the boy and girl who collected the most tin cans on their respective playgrounds), and the number of cans collected. The Tin Can Prince and Princess led their playground in the Olympic parade. Later in the day, on a natural stage at Overton Park Lake, a committee of judges selected the King and Queen, who were crowned by the Mayor of Memphis. Then, proudly wearing their tin crowns, they were rowed away by real sailors to be admired by the playground children seated across the lake.

On the Air!

In addition to the activities conducted on the playgrounds, the Memphis boys and girls write, act, and sing on the radio.

"Hi deedle le dee—it's Lady Make Believe,
Hi deedle le dum, to all the parks she comes,
She has a bag of otter skin to keep her plays
and stories in.
Hi deedle le dee, it's Lady Make Believe."

Heard every Saturday morning over Station WMPS in Memphis, this theme song has become a familiar one to the children in that city. As the children's voices fade, a feminine voice takes over —"Good morning, boys and girls, this is Lady Make Believe and the otter skin bag. A favorite story in the otter skin bag is that of Little Red Riding Hood. The boys and girls of Memphis playgrounds are waiting this morning to give you their version of the old, old story, and if it's slightly different from the story as you've heard it before, remember stories as well as people sometimes change in the course of time. So let's be off."

Realizing that drama and music hold a fascination for young people, the City Recreation Department has sought to combine the two in weekly broadcasts for children and with children as participants. Lady Make Believe's otter skin bag has quite a history behind it. It seems that in the dim long ago, according to an old Indian legend, Skundy Wundy, the first storyteller, cornered a clever old fox in the wilderness and made him tell his tales of romance and adventure. One by one, Skundy Wundy put the stories into a bag of otter skin for boys and girls to hear when they came upon this earth. And that's how we know what happened in the dim long ago, and that's where Lady Make Believe gets all the stories and songs she brings to the microphone each Saturday morning. The songs are sung and the plays enacted by children from each of the nineteen summer playgrounds and the five winter community centers. Station WMPS has cooperated with the Recreation Department in donating the half hour radio time each week.

The program has served a multifold purpose. It has brought the activities of the playgrounds and the community centers into the homes. This past summer, when the project of the summer playgrounds was "A Salute to Our Armed Forces," the half hour show depicted in song and story interesting data about various branches of our armed services. For instance, a musical play about Molly Pitcher brought to light the fact that this early American heroine was a true forerunner of the WACs—in so far as the young lady who took over her husband's position on the field of battle was commissioned by George Washington as a sergeant in the Continental Army. The winter series of children's plays has helped to satisfy the insatiable appetite of children everywhere for plays and entertainment. Aside from the time-honored fairy and folk tales, the series has offered *Gulliver's Travels,* Dickens' *Christmas Carol, The Happy Prince, Toyland, Peter Rabbit, Ten Minutes by the Clock,* and Rachel Field's *Three Pills in a Bottle.*

To familiarize the young artists with radio terms and technique a radio dictionary was distributed. The bulletin included the meaning of fade in, fade out, off mike, ad lib, and other terms. Illustrations picturing the director's meaning when she makes certain gestures during a broadcast were included to enliven the material.

The bulletin concluded with suggestions for producing sound effects, and each playground and center now has its own sound effect men — boys and girls who are not particularly interested in acting and singing but who do like the technical end of radio work. These young technicians can produce anything from the roar of a lion to a first-rate thunderstorm.

Besides developing young radio performers and technicians, the program is now to be a training ground for future radio script writers. Beginning February 19 and running through March 20, 1944, the Recreation Department is sponsoring a radio playwriting contest for which all grammar, junior high and high school students in Memphis are eligible. The boys and girls are being encouraged through the local press, the public schools and the community centers to write their own original radio plays or dramatize a fairy or folk tale. The winner is to receive a gold medal, and the three best plays will be presented on the air—April 15th, 22nd, and 29th. The young playwrights will be interviewed and will announce their own programs. Judges include representatives from the Memphis Little Theater, Radio Station WMPS, the Public Library, and the chairman of the Children's Theater of the Junior League of Memphis.

It is hoped that not only three but many worthwhile plays will be submitted by budding playwrights—enough to supply the playground playtime program with material for the whole summer of 1944. Then it will truly be a program *with* children, *by* children, and *for* children.

At Home on July 4th!

Gedge Harmon

By MINNA B. REICHELT
Assistant Chief, Bureau of Recreation
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

FOURTH OF JULY celebrations are not uncommon in Philadelphia. This historic city has reasons to observe the birth of our freedom. It was in Philadelphia, in Independence Hall, in the year 1776 that the Declaration of Independence was drafted and signed by the Second Continental Congress. This act gave us our liberty which we have cherished for one hundred and sixty-seven years.

In 1943, Philadelphia marked Independence Day with more than usual emphasis. The city was alive with celebrations, bunting, flags, parades, bands, music, patriotic music and songs. Gaiety prevailed in playgrounds, city squares, parks and lots. The spirit of festivity was everywhere.

The celebrations were more numerous than in former years and every commemoration was conducted on a greater scale. A number of ceremonies began at eight o'clock in the morning and continued until midnight. Baby parades, lucky number drawings, events for youngsters, boys and girls, baseball, volley ball, softball, social dancing, square dances, entertainment and music provided activities and amusements for everyone in the community of every age.

The Councilmanic body of Philadelphia made the large scale celebrations possible. Realizing that war conditions would prevent a wholesale exodus from the city for the July Fourth holiday, the Councilmen took measures to create a happy time for the stay-at-home Philadelphians. The City Fathers appropriated the sum of $30,000 for community celebrations. The money was divided so that Legion Posts, civic organizations, churches and playgrounds were financially provided to conduct interesting programs throughout the city.

The Bureau of Recreation received $15,000 which was allotted to thirty-nine recreation centers under its jurisdiction. The centers received from $200 to $500 each to conduct stimulating affairs. Various organizations and individuals in the communities were invited to form committees by the supervisors of the recreation centers so that the program would be a real community celebration.

Businessmen's associations, civilian defense groups, Legion Posts, church societies, neighborhood councils, citizens' committees, women's committees, athletic associations, scoutmasters, parents' associations and many other groups worked hand in hand with the playground supervisors. Placards and posters were printed and displayed and handbills were distributed inviting the public to be a part of Philadelphia's observance of this day.

Patriotic citizens of Philadelphia to the number of almost 125,000 chose to stay at home last summer to observe Independence Day at the municipal playgrounds. Thus it came about that the "City of Brotherly Love" enjoyed its largest family celebration in history!

The Programs

The programs were varied throughout the city. Some were conducted on a greater scale than others but 351 hours of fun were packed in the thirty-nine playground celebrations. Young and old were there to take an active part in events, to lend a helping hand or to be entertained.

The distribution of flags and hats, a neighborhood parade, flag raising, pledge of allegiance, the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," and patriotic speeches were the opening exercises held. From then on youngsters vied for prizes in athletic and novelty events, scrambled for peanuts, drank soda pop or birch beer from iced kegs, ate sandwiches and milk at noontime or enjoyed dixie cups or ice cream. Babies paraded in decorated coaches and were awarded prizes. Adults and married couples took part in novelty events, played volley ball, softball and baseball, enjoyed music, vaudeville shows, motion pictures and dancing or volunteered their time to sit at

booths selling stamps and bonds. In many cases war stamps were issued for prizes; war bonds were presented to several lucky winners and a war stamp given to each participant in parades and events.

The program at Starr Garden Recreation Center is typical of the programs at many of the centers:

10:00	Flag Raising and Singing Reading "Declaration of Independence"
10:15	Addresses by Prominent Speakers "God Bless America"
10:30	Children's Events (under 10 years)
12:00	Distribution of Creamsicles and Flags
1:00 to 2:00	Track and Field Events (Boys and Girls 10 to 14 years)
2:00 to 3:00	Track and Field Events (Boys and Girls 14 to 16 years)
3:00 to 4:00	Track and Field Events (Boys and Girls over 16 years)
4:00 to 5:00	Novelty Events (Men and Women)
5:30	Distribution of Creamsicles
7:00	Dances and Songs by the Children
7:30	Vaudeville Acts
8:00	Amateur Talent Contest
8:30	Demonstration by Air Raid Wardens
8:45	Moving Pictures on the Grounds
9:00 to 10:00	Social Dancing

Since 1925, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has had an official Fourth of July Commission whose object it is "to promote and encourage the observance of Independence Day, July 4, in a safe as well as patriotic manner, to inculcate in the minds of both children and adults the true meaning of independence and the glory in being privileged to be a citizen of this noble country, the United States of America."

The Commission consists of sixteen citizens of the County of Milwaukee appointed by the Mayor. (Dorothy Enderis, in charge of recreation, is a member.) The Commission is organized with a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer (who is the city treasurer), and there are a number of subcommittees which have the power to appoint such person or persons as they may deem necessary to carry out the plans for the Fourth of July programs. The standing committees appointed by the chairman include the following:

Athletics and Games
Doll Parades and Juvenile Floats
Budget
Fireworks
Music
Organization
Parades and Parks
Park Equipment
Program
Publicity and Printing
Executive
Emergency
Orphaned and Handicapped Children

In view of the importance placed by the city of Philadelphia on the celebration of Independence Day, it is interesting to note that Pennsylvania, in 1873, was the first state to make this occasion a legal holiday. There is record, however, of its observance by the citizens of New Bern, North Carolina, in 1778, and it was celebrated elsewhere before the action of Pennsylvania was followed by all the states.

The bylaws of the constitution provide for an organization for each park with the following officers:

President	Coaster chairman
Vice-president	Program chairman
Secretary	Music chairman
Treasurer	Refreshments chairman
Park chairman	Fireworks chairman
Marshal	Games chairman
Doll chairman	Finance chairman

The president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer are elected officers. Other officials and the chairmen of the various committees are appointed by the president. Additional officers and helpers may be provided by each park organization to function as assistants to the regular chairman.

The park organizations are in charge of celebrations at individual parks, and in 1943, eighteen parks participated with programs including community singing, dancing, concerts, and similar activities.

The program at Wauwatosa Park follows:

12:30 P.M.	Assemble on school grounds. Will you and several of your teachers volunteer to assist your marshal in distributing flags and in starting the children to the central meeting point?
1:00 P.M.	Parade
2:00 P.M.	Arrive at parks. Distribution of ice cream to those who participated in the parade
2:30 - 3:00 P.M.	Doll and coaster parades
4:00 - 6:30 P.M.	Patriotic program prepared by the various schools
7:30 P.M.	Evening program

Burbank Makes Full Use of Its Parks

By FLORENCE G. EDGERLY
Director of Public Relations and Publicity
Parks and Recreation Department
Burbank, California

THE ESTABLISHMENT of numerous defense plants in Burbank, California, has changed this home community into an industrial city and has brought in thousands of new residents. With this great influx of population has come an ever-increasing need for public recreation. A far-sighted superintendent of the municipal Parks and Recreation Department, backed up by an enthusiastic Board of Commissioners, is meeting the demand with a well-rounded recreation program covering all types of activity and all age groups.

The summer of 1943 saw inaugurated the first full-time, directed program for all five park areas within the city. Two full-time, paid supervisors were assigned to each park to carry out a program of activity every day of the week, with special events and "treats" arranged from time to time. Activity varied in the areas, and each supervisor was encouraged to develop different types of interest, always keeping in mind a proper balance between active and passive entertainment.

Active sports always take an important place in summer fun, so all kinds were included in the program. Tennis, badminton, shuffleboard, table tennis, clock golf, softball, basketball, and a wading pool were available in three areas, while another had teeters, swings, tetherballs and like equipment. The fifth park, located in a mountain area, offered a fine wading pool but nothing in game equipment except the few quiet games brought in for the season. But the young people found ample entertainment in the great outdoors and built their program around nature herself.

The hour immediately following lunch was storytelling time, with dramatics included to make the game more thrilling. This provided a quiet time in the heat of the day and helped to keep the little folks from becoming overtired.

Handcraft occupied many hours, but because of the shortage of critical material it really became "scrap craft," supervisors vying with each other in

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Junior Nature Leaders Today and Tomorrow

Courtesy National Elementary Principal

By DONALD EDWARD MCHENRY
Park Naturalist
National Capital Parks

THE IDEA OF PUPIL leadership in the field of nature is an outgrowth of greatly increased demands upon the park naturalist in the National Capital Parks for conducted nature walks for school children. In the course of the program the point was reached where there were not enough hours to go around and many requests had to be turned down. In casting about for some better means of meeting the situation, the park naturalist conceived the idea of training "apt" school children to do this leading in his stead.

In April 1940, invitations were sent to five selected local elementary schools to participate in an experimental junior nature leaders' training course. Six pupils from the sixth grade and a similar number from the fifth grade were selected as understudies by their teachers. The choice was based upon recognized qualities of leadership and interest in natural history. Groups from each school were in charge of a teacher-monitor who was the person most interested in nature study in that school. Seventy-five persons enrolled in the first course. So successful did this experiment prove that similar but expanded courses have been offered each spring since then. With these experiences as a background it is possible to offer the following discussion of the various techniques employed.

In these days of destructive warfare it has become axiomatic that in the midst of war we are preparing for tomorrow's peace. Nothing could be more significant in this regard than the training of our children as leaders to teach their fellow schoolmates—and oldsters too—a greater appreciation of nature and thus spread the philosophy of conservation.

This is the aim of the pupil nature leaders' training course offered to the school children of Washington, D. C., by the National Park Service through the National Capital Parks.

Indoor Sessions

Springtime has been selected for the course because of the obvious advantage of interesting field trips. The course itself consists of six Saturday morning sessions of about two and a half hours duration, each followed by an equal number of Sunday afternoon field trips. For the Saturday morning meetings a small auditorium, as centrally located as possible, was selected. Each indoor session was divided into two parts separated by a ten-minute recess. During the first part of each session a different phase of natural history was presented. The subjects included local spring flowers, given on

two successive Saturday mornings, local trees, birds, animals, and geology.

In presenting a natural history subject indoors, emphasis was placed upon recognition of identifying features through the use of natural color pictures projected on a screen which showed habitats and close-ups of structure. These were augmented by displays of mounted material, study skins, and hand specimens. Facts about economic, human, Indian, and legendary uses were given where possible. Such facts enlivened even the most ordinary item of study, aided the children in remembering it, and stimulated enthusiasm for sharing such knowledge with others.

The latter part of each indoor period was devoted to intensive review of all material previously discussed. Pictures or specimens were presented in rapid sequence for quick recognition and terse statements of some pertinent information. Such reviews were usually marked by a lively spirit of keen competition.

Books on the particular subject being considered were introduced and displayed for examination at each Saturday morning meeting. These were supplemented by leaflets prepared on local natural history features[1]. These leaflets together with any specimens collected in the field and the enrollee's own notes were incorporated into pupils' notebooks for the course. In addition, each enrollee was required to prepare a simple theme paper of not less than two pages on some phase of the work of the course. Both notebooks and themes were checked without grades by the naturalist staff at the end of the course and an appropriate statement of commendation was noted.

Trips to local museums were suggested and encouraged by awarding additional recognition at the end of the course.

"Today's children will be the leaders of tomorrow and the guardians of our great out-of-door areas. To them, from the depth of our present philosophy of destruction, we can confidently pass the torch of conservation and all that it means in abundant living."

Field Excursions

On the Sunday afternoon field excursions the enrollees examined the actual specimens in their native habitat. Individuals were given opportunity to lead the group on parts of these trips. Techniques in field leadership[2] were introduced on these walks and improvements suggested. All this training was supplemented by discussions at meetings of the school nature club under the direction of the teacher-monitor.

The actual nature walks for all the pupils in a given school are the climax of the training courses. In final preparation, the pupil nature leaders and their understudies were taken by the park naturalist to an outdoor area near their school. With the aid of their teacher-monitor a trail or route was laid out for each leader, and numbers were assigned to each trail and leader. Before leaving the classroom, each child was given a number corresponding to a trail and a leader. Thus each leader was in charge of the same number of children, and the children reported readily to the leader whose number they held.

The third grade was the first group to be taken on these nature walks. They were selected because they were young enough to accept readily this type of leadership and yet old enough to grasp the intent of the outing. Self-confidence in their ability as leaders was thus given the best possible chance for development. By the time they had come to the last walk of the series with their own classmates, they had reached the peak of their growth in this undertaking.

The last meeting with the park naturalist was on the nature walk with the third grade pupils. He, however, together with the third grade teacher, and possibly the nature teacher-monitor, stayed definitely in the background exercising the barest minimum of supervision. At the close of this nature walk the leaders and the naturalist held a final conference to clear up any remaining points. From then on the pupil nature leaders were on their own, except for the unobtrusive presence of the grade teacher of the group in case of any needed discipline. Thus the nature walk programs have been launched to serve thousands of Washington school children instead of the hundreds possible under the personal guidance of the park naturalist.

"Graduation" Exercises

"Graduation" exercises were held at the various schools in the form of a school nature assembly. The program, organized and presented by the enrollees of the training course, consisted of sketches presented by pupils dramatizing nature experiences along the trail during the course. At the close of the program the park superintendent and

1. *Outdoor Leadership*, G. A. Petrides, *Parks and Recreation*, Vol. XXVI, No. 7, pp. 306-13, Sept.-Oct. 1943.

2. Ibid, pp. 325-6.

a member of the naturalist staff awarded certificates to the junior nature leaders. Three types of certificates were given. One was a certificate with honor given to those who had done outstanding and additional work in the course. Another certificate recognized satisfactory completion of the minimum requirements of the course, while the third was in the form of a statement of accomplishments below the minimum requirements. Thus every participant in the course received some sort of recognition and yet a very keen sense of competition was preserved. Such "graduation" exercises, although simple in form, dignified the aims and ideals of the training course in the minds of all the school pupils attending the assembly, and led naturally to the final step in the program.

Problems to Be Solved

To date, junior nature leader programs have been promoted principally in the elementary schools. Nevertheless a few junior high and senior high school pupils have enrolled in the training course. There is every reason to believe that such a program will eventually be extended to high schools with necessary modifications. However, before these next steps are taken certain problems inherent in the present scheme demand solution.

Probably most pressing is the need for reaching a greater percentage of the elementary schools in a metropolitan area such as the city of Washington. The most centrally located meeting place will still involve distances too great to make it possible for children from outlying schools to attend the course. Since there is a definite relationship between the time of the year the course is scheduled and the seasonal expression of nature, it does not seem wise to stagger several courses in order to accomplish this end. Instead of Saturday morning meetings it may be better to arrange sessions during regular school periods, excusing enrollees from their regular school work during these times. Such a scheme would make it possible to operate a number of centers on successive days, devoting one week to each subject in all centers. This would also avoid conflicts with childen's Saturday appointments such as music lessons, visits to the dentist, shopping tours and the like.

Six weekly indoor meetings and as many field trips may at first appear to be totally inadequate and superficial. Only the most evident highlights of each phase of the several fields considered are emphasized and they are presented in extreme simplicity. It is felt that for the sake of maintaining a high level of interest and enthusiasm, there is considerable virtue in confining the course to this limited period.

Although these junior nature leaders' training courses have been designed and conducted for school children as a part of their school science work, their application has by no means been confined to this scope alone. At their request, a limited number of adult leaders from Boy and Girl

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The park naturalist gives a group of junior nature leaders their final field instructions

Henry Pfeiffer Library
MacMurray College
Jacksonville, Illinois

Some Camping Experiences

There were many difficulties in the way of carrying on a camping program last summer. But somehow or other, camps went on just the same, and to the everlasting credit of public and private groups all over the country, the challenge was met. Here are just a few stories offered as evidence.

A Co-operative Camp

By CONSTANCE CURRIE

FOR THE PAST five years the St. Paul Neighborhood House has carried on an experiment in co-operative camping. The camp, known as the St. Paul Co-operative Camp, is perhaps no longer in the experimental stage; it has built up traditions, established policies, gained sympathetic and influential friends, and earned an enviable reputation in camping associations and in the local community.

What Makes It Co-operative? The co-operative camp sponsorship consists of twelve group work and case work agencies in St. Paul. Ten of them are Community Chest agencies; the eleventh and twelfth are the County Welfare Board and the State Division of Social Welfare.

In 1939, the National Park Service set up an advisory board to find a sponsoring organization which would take over the operation of a group camp on the upper St. Croix River, near Hinckley, Minnesota. The camp, located 107 miles from St. Paul, is in the St. Croix Recreation Area which in 1943 was taken over by the State of Minnesota. It had excellent facilities, a capacity for ninety-six campers, and conformed to the modern trend of decentralized camping.

Neighborhood House was represented on this advisory committee. Realizing that here was an opportunity to acquire, for a nominal renting fee of $576 per season, a camp site with buildings that would accommodate 576 campers over six ten-day periods, together with some equipment, the House established the St. Paul Co-operative Camp.

There are definite advantages in the co-operative setup. Although not one of the agencies alone could meet the expenditures necessary for the camp, the twelve agencies together could. Furthermore, a very real advantage lay in the fact that a portion of each agency's staff could be released to attend camp while their children were in camp. Workers and children benefit mutually from this arrangement. The workers can observe their children twenty-four hours a day over a ten-day period; the children get inestimable good out of being closely associated in the camp atmosphere with the workers who have their interest so closely at heart.

Internal Organization. The problems of agency quotas, camp fees, dates, transportation, and agency leadership are decided by the Co-operative Camp Committee, which consists of one member from each of the co-operating agencies. It was felt, however, that responsibility for the camp should be centralized in one agency, and Neighborhood House was selected for this job. The task involves making the budget, raising the money, hiring general counselors, buying food and supplies, and serving in a general supervisory capacity.

The camp budget is approximately $11,000; this includes the leadership in kind. The money is raised through campers' fees, private donations, and the city-wide "Fishermen's Party" sponsored by the local daily paper. This year the camp fees are $8.50 for each camper, and the fee includes a medical examination, transportation, food, and lodging.

For four years the camp had three ten-day periods for girls, and three for boys. In 1943, in line with modern camping trends, co-educational camping was instituted. It presented many new and challenging problems, but it was felt by all the agencies that "co-ed" camping was highly successful, and that it does have advantages over a camp for boys alone or girls alone.

Constance Currie, Director, Neighborhood House Association, St. Paul, answers three questions in her discussion of the St. Paul Co-operative Camp:

1. **In what way is it a co-operative?**
2. **What is its internal organization?**
3. **What are its aims and purposes and how well does the camp accomplish them?**

It is true, however, that when older boys and girls are in a co-educational camp, skilled men leaders are essential, and in 1943 it was not possible to obtain the number of men we felt were essential. Furthermore, there were campers who prefered being in an all-girl or all-boy camp. Therefore one period was reserved for older girls and one for older boys; the remaining four periods were co-educational. The leadership was co-educational in all periods. In 1944 the same arrangement will be made.

Aims and Purposes. Perhaps the aims of most camps are somewhat the same: health, acquisition of new skills, experience in living and working with others as well as playing with them, and participation in some form of democratic government or camper rule. In addition, the St. Paul Co-operative Camp provides an opportunity for its leaders to teach what the statesmen of the world are trying to achieve: racial, religious, and class co-operation and understanding.

The "Co-operative" is made up of a Catholic agency, a Negro agency, a settlement house with a large proportion of Jewish participants, and a number of case work and family welfare agencies.

Because children at camp live so intensely, so fully, and are so receptive to suggestion, we believe the Co-operative Camp can be the most dynamic educational process a boy or girl can experience. An excerpt taken from the Director's report of last season illustrates this point:

> "It has been many years since I read Van Loon's book, *Tolerance;* but if everywhere in America, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, and Negroes each Sunday night could gather together in a meeting such as the staff and campers of St. John's Camp (St. Paul Co-operative Camp) staged, bigotry and intolerance would take a beating.
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> "I shall never forget one Sunday Vesper Service in particular. A soft rain was playing a lazy, subdued symphony on the roof as a group of eight colored girls sang three Spirituals, as only they can sing them; a Jewish girl read Joyce Kilmer's 'Trees'; a Catholic camper and a Protestant camper alternated between a responsive reading.
>
> "And when the writer was called upon to conclude the service, he offered an unplanned and unprepared prayer, but it was the most sincere effort his lips have ever attempted."

We feel that the camp *does* accomplish its purposes. Both campers and counselors feel honored and proud to be associated with the camp and the traditions for which it stands.

A Citizenship Camp

By JOHN ZUSSMAN

Director, Junior Optimist Citizenship Camp

FIFTY MEMBERS of Milwaukee's Junior Optimist Clubs camped for five days last August at Hawthorne Glen where they went through a practical training in citizenship. They had their own city government, elected their city officials, made and enforced ordinances regulating the city, and conducted their own elections. Members from their

Courtesy St. Paul Co-operative Camp

group made up the police force and courts, and administered justice.

Leadership at the camp consisted of a camp director, the only paid worker, a dean of counselors, legal advisors and ward counselors, all volunteers from the Boys' Work Committee of the Optimist Club. The dean of counselors had the responsibility of administering the program of instruction and training in citizenship and selecting speakers. The legal counselors were attorneys of the Optimist Club, each of whom was appointed to lecture on the duties and functions of the various city officials. The ward counselors were assigned to each ward and had responsibility for guiding the activities of their respective groups.

In planning the camp, invitations were sent to members of twenty-eight Junior Optimist Clubs, and the registration was limited to eighty boys. There was no charge or fee at the camp for the boys who spent each day there from 10:00 A. M. to 7:30 P. M. The boys brought their own food for two meals and prepared it over the outdoor campfires, and at 7:30 they went home for the night.

The program of citizenship training at Milwaukee's Junior Optimist Camp is based on the following conviction: "A man is a good citizen only when he understands his government; when he participates in its problems; when he recognizes his duties and responsibilities toward it, shares in its burdens, protects its good name, and contributes to the richness of its life."

As each boy registered on the first morning, he was assigned to one of the fifteen wards organized for the camp. At the opening assembly instructions were given regarding rules, policies and regulations, and the boys received information on the conduct of a caucus and other campaign information. Then a special school of instruction for candidates for office was conducted by the legal counselors. The boys had the option of attending the group in which they were interested, such as mayor, treasurer, city clerk, alderman or municipal judge. After learning at this session about the duties and functions of each office, the boys had a much better idea about the office which they wanted to seek.

At Monday afternoon's session the boys held a caucus to nominate their candidates for office. The boys saw to it that the procedure was parliamentary and "aboveboard." When the entire slate had been nominated, not one bit of real political flavor was lost as the boys prepared campaign speeches, posters, and went about the business of getting votes.

On the second morning the general assembly was turned over to campaign and election speeches, and each candidate had his chance. The guest speaker before the actual voting began was the secretary of the Milwaukee Election Commission who gave the boys simple instruction in voting procedure. Official voting stalls were set up and the election commission chosen by the boys took charge of the voting.

The highlight of the election campaign and of the camp came with the oath of office ceremony, for which all the city officials headed by Mayor John Bohn were on hand. In the procession to the platform Mayor Bohn escorted the boys' mayor; the city treasurer accompanied the boy treasurer, and so on. Milwaukee's city clerk administered the oath of office to each boy elected.

On Wednesday afternoon the first common council meeting was held with the mayor in the chair. City officials were on hand to help the boys conduct the meeting and show them the procedure for introducing resolutions and ordinances. One ordinance which was passed stated that each citizen should be taxed one cent a day, and this was paid to the city treasurer during his stated office hours.

But even a busy official must have some play, so in between the campaign meetings and court sessions there were baseball, football, volley ball, and dodge ball games. Special instruction was given on campfire cooking and the preparation of food. Nature lore played an important part in the program, and expert nature specialists were brought in to instruct the boys.

The actual cost of conducting the camp was low. There was no expense for the site which was one of the playground parks of the city. Expenditures were about $65 exclusive of street car transportation. This included leadership, clerical help, office supplies and materials, and postage.

A Home Vacation Camp

IN ADDITION to its day camp at Camp Witawentin, the Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Girls' League Association last summer maintained a home vacation camp conducted by volunteers. It was run on a two weeks' basis for a total of 192 camper weeks, and the camp fee was nominal. The League yard was transformed into camper units with fireplaces

and lashed tables. Hikes to the city playgrounds including nature trips, cookouts, marshmallow roasts, craft classes, and all activities to be found at any good camp were carried out in and around the League building. Twice a week the home vacationers went out to Camp Witawentin where they had their own camp site, swimming period, and program. At the end of the day they met the day campers for flag lowering and a sing period. The home vacationers won the song contest and the unit competition program, and were responsible for the miniature golf course at the County Fair which closed the Witawentin season.

Gedge Harmon

At camp—far away from all the strains and tensions of wartime

races. Children here had the opportunity of learning about the members of other groups.

Many of the camps engaged in the operation of Farm Labor Camps to assist in the gathering of the crops. This provided a valuable work experience which was considered of inestimable value.

Other war services rendered by camps included the operation of victory gardens, craft work for the American Red Cross, training in forest conservation and training as fighting crews in the event of forest fires.

The outlook for 1944, according to camp directors, indicated that there would be an increased enrollment of children, but that there would be more difficulty in securing staff personnel. They expect to recruit these from among discharged veterans, school teachers and parents.—From the *Pacific Camping Association.*

Summer Camps on the Pacific Coast

INFORMATION GATHERED from sixty organized summer camps on the Pacific Coast showed that many more children were taken care of last summer than in previous years. Many of them came from homes where both parents were engaged in war industry. Camps made a great contribution in providing a feeling of security for these children.

Greater emphasis was placed on building up the health of the campers and making them more physically fit to withstand the strains of wartime. The mental health of the children was preserved by getting them away from war tensions, crowded living conditions and abnormal home conditions, especially in the critical war areas.

Many of the camps reported that their children gained greater experience in learning the ways of democracy by participating in small group activities, where they had the experience of cooperating and adjusting.

A number of the organizations operated interracial camps, which included representatives of different

Louis H. Blumenthal, Chairman of the Research Committee of the Pacific Camping Association, reported the findings of a study on "How Camping Met the Challenge in 1943" before the annual meeting of the Association held early in March.

All who believe that camping can go on in spite of wartime difficulties will be encouraged by this report from the Coast.

"The summer camp is an American institution. It is a constructive force at work on children. Most camps by necessity have plenty of sunshine, forests and fields. Some camps provide interesting nature experiences; others repeat city experiences. Some camps are devoted to competitions and selfish purposes; some are directing their energies toward satisfying activities and exploratory thinking. Some camps have resourceful outdoor leaders; some specialize in hero-athletics. Some camps cultivate leisure-time talents; some plan joint community projects such as building and equipping a trailside museum. Others are regimented in teams for points and medals. Any investment for your child is worthy of critical analysis and intelligent judgment.

"A camp is a place for enjoyable outdoor living. When the program is organized on a small group plan, where there is cooperative freedom for every individual in providing food, shelter, recreation, work and culture, we find democracy at its best." — *William G. Vinal.*

A Community Play Day

By FRANCIS T. LEAHY

CLIMAXING the 1943 summer season, the Brattleboro, Vermont, Recreation Department determined to offer a day of fun and recreation which would attract the interest and participation of the entire community—a program which would contribute to civic pride and morale as well.

To provide an opportunity for civic-minded organizations and individuals to cooperate in a worth-while community enterprise and also to solicit indirectly some badly needed volunteer leadership, invitations for an organization meeting were issued to approximately twenty community groups to send representatives to draw up plans for the event. Every group approached sent a representative. The delegates decided against a formal organization and placed authority for the unification of the whole program in the Director of Recreation, making him chairman of future meetings.

A list of activities which might be sponsored was presented to the group for consideration. Everyone was urged to suggest a suitable activity which could be easily adapted to the program. The American Legion representatives immediately suggested an airplane spotting contest for youngsters—an activity not on the suggested list—and in no time at all it was incorporated in the final program. The delegates reported back to their organizations with the understanding that the chairman would assist in explaining activities wherever necessary.

The second meeting of the organization representatives found the original group reduced to twelve members. This had been anticipated, however, and detailed planning of the program progressed with definite assignments and commitments being made. Final arrangements regarding time and place of various activities were left to the discretion of the chairman.

The Office of Civilian Defense in the community loaned the services of its publicity agent to handle newspaper releases. The local newspaper cooperated wholeheartedly in the promotion of the program and, for several days preceding the date, featured the Play Day with front page accounts of the planned activities. The Police Department and the Auxiliary Police of the OCD provided the necessary supervision.

Committees of the participating organizations carried out the details and arrangements for the activity each sponsored. The Director of Recreation was kept informed on details through daily contact with the chairmen of the different committees. The program, as finally drawn up, provided something for everyone to do during the day and evening, and distributed the activities geographically to widely separated districts of the town.

The Chamber of Commerce furnished a horse drawn barge to accommodate youngsters participating in the swimming carnival held at the Community Bathing Beach at the edge of town.

It was estimated that over 1,600 people took part in the day's fun. The *Brattleboro Daily Reformer* neatly

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There are many advantages in a community play day. One is that everybody can have a part in it.

Courtesy Lancaster, Pa., Recreation Association

Courtesy Perry-Mansfield Camps

Youth Out of Doors

There have been many articles in the past year's issues of RECREATION regarding Youth Centers. The emphasis on these centers, which has been of so much interest to our young people and their adult friends, will not, we feel sure, detract in any way from the outdoor activities which have always been so fundamental a part of a recreation program for youth.

NOW THAT SUMMER is here, the interest of youth will naturally turn to the out-of-doors and sports, outings, hiking, and camping will for a time prove more alluring than their indoor centers.

What are some of these outdoor activities which can be so enjoyable to our teen-agers during the spring, summer, and fall?

Outings

Picnics and Cookouts. There are usually places in parks, beaches, or near-by woods that provide facilities for small group picnics and cookouts. For cold weather there are sometimes shelters and park lodges with large fireplaces that make possible winter activities. Clam bakes, corn roasts, weiner roasts, steak roasts, and pancake breakfasts include but a few of the possibilities. Evening cookouts are often followed by campfire programs with informal singing, games, stunts, and stories. Committees of young people should be appointed to care for securing food, selecting sites, obtaining permits, and planning entertainment. Adults will generally be called on to assist in transportation, buying food, and similar matters.

Hiking. If war clouds have a silver lining, the return to walking is unquestionably that lining! So join your community's hiking club or if there is none, get some of your friends together and start one. You'll find "Ramblers" or some similar name more attractive than "Hiking Club." Many young people are tired from working long hours and won't respond readily to an invitation to "hike," which so often connotes hot, dusty miles, sunburnt faces, and blistered feet. Vary the program with social gatherings, parties, and refreshments. Outdoor cooking never loses its charm.

Bicycle Clubs. Some people want to do their hiking on bicycles! Bicycle clubs have a well-deserved popularity, especially when embellished with early breakfasts out of doors, swims, moonlight rides, or treasure hunts. Try a "flip-a-penny ride." At every intersection if it's heads we go left; tails we go right until we are lost!

If possible, when winter comes swing your bicycle, rambler and other clubs into winter sports. In many southern cities roller skating to music in the evening under red, green, blue, and yellow lights on hard surface tennis courts is the big November-to-March teen age outdoor activity. In

cities further north parties, dances, badminton and other indoor activities give way to snow and ice sports when winter really comes.

Explore Your Community. Whether on foot or bicycle, or by bus or trolley, explore your city and learn to know it. These trips can be very popular, especially if each exploration ends in a soda shop, a youth center, or a private home. When interest wanes in the usual trips or if the young people are working daytime, try nighttime trips to newspapers, radio stations, or to airports at times when planes are due.

Many young people will be interested in visiting museums and galleries, zoos, wildlife sanctuaries, and botanical gardens. State and national parks, as well as local parks and preservation areas, often have trailside museums and nature trails which may serve as added attractions to picnic and excursion groups to these areas.

Special interest trips may be organized, or science, photography, or art clubs already formed may go as a body. Many communities have outing clubs of various kinds, Audubon bird clubs, and nature clubs in which young people will find a ready welcome if they wish to participate in the activities offered.

Camping. The teen years are the years to explore and adventure. Most young people in their late teens have passed beyond the stage of the day camp and the ordinary organized camp activities. They are, however, tremendously interested in primitive camping in small groups where they may feel a sense of self-sufficiency in carrying out their own ideas.

Week-end camping is often possible by hiking to woodland areas near cities, or by bicycling or riding on trains to more distant spots. Such activities involve planning for adequate clothing, food, and shelter and a knowledge of woodcraft skills sufficient to provide reasonable comfort and safety in camp.

More extended primitive camping excursions involve reaching a wilderness area and carrying along all the food or equipment required. Backpacking, one of the methods of primitive camping, involves careful selection of concentrated food and lightweight camp equipment. Other methods are canoeing and packing with horses or burros. Both these methods require special skill—one in handling canoes, the other in packing and caring for the animals.

Primitive camping gives the thrill of venturing into the wilderness and living under conditions where resourcefulness and camping skills become paramount. Young people should not venture on such trips without experienced adult leadership unless they have proved their ability to care for themselves under primitive conditions.

Sports

In a program of sports for youth the importance of fun at all times is a prime consideration. Many young people have never learned the skills of sports; others are very skilled. But whatever the degree of skill, it takes sociability before, during, and after the games, with occasional picnics, visiting, informal contests, refreshments late at night, and other activities to bind together dub and expert, newcomer and old-timer, in a way the sport alone cannot do.

Volley Ball. Mixed group volley ball is probably one of the easiest sports to organize—*if you have a leader who is enthusiastic.* Place the players so that girls and boys serve alternately, and make the rule that in volleying the ball must be touched by a girl before it goes back over the net. In this way the boys do not do all playing, as they would otherwise. Have benches for spectators and for resting —right at the volley ball court, and encourage shy ones first to watch, then to be linesmen, scorers, perhaps referees, and when someone has to leave, urge them to fill in, "just for a few minutes." Soon they'll be playing all the time, and liking it.

Lead-ups to Softball. Softball for mixed groups is not advisable, for the boys are too strong and skillful, and most girls are not expert players and may get hurt. However, lead-up games, on a four-base diamond without a bat and with an inflated ball such as hand baseball, soccer baseball, punch ball, follow ball, beat ball or hit pin baseball are excellent for mixed teams, especially on playgrounds or at picnics or beaches with girls in sports clothes. Some times for a novelty, especially for spectators at a picnic or family fun night, mixed teams may play real softball with the rule that boys must bat and pitch and throw left-handed (if they are normally right-handed). This makes an interesting fun game. Never permit girls' teams to compete against boys' teams in any sport.

Golf and Archery. Golf and archery are excellent teen age sports if loan equipment and good instruction can be provided. They may begin as an early spring activity indoors, with a practice driving net and class instruction for golf, and with

an indoor range and tackle-making in the craft shop for archery. Minimize competition to avoid discouragement at first, arrange informal play, or use handicaps or ladder tournaments and stress sociability even for nonplayers who may want to "tag along," or catch their interest by giving them jobs, scoring, reporting, etc. A clock golf course or a miniature golf course around the edge of a large playground adds to the neighborhood fun but won't meet the need for a long period. Watch out for danger in golf driving and in archery! Teen age boys and girls are not always thoughtful. Don't forget socializing afterwards—it's more important than the instruction!

Many other sports might be mentioned. There are always tennis, one of the best outdoor sports, and horseback riding, if horses are available and prices reasonable.

Social Recreation

An experienced leader has suggested that at least one evening a week a "Just-for-Fun Night" should be set aside for teen age groups on every playground in the country. Each night there should be something special planned and arranged by the young people themselves, from the inevitable weiner roast to watermelon feasts, corn roasts, amateur nights, radio rambles, and mock broadcasts to celebrity night when motion picture stars are imitated. For the place the playground may be used — perhaps the tennis court area — or a near-by street may be blocked off.

Parking Lot Canteen. If more elaborate facilities cannot be developed, why not try the parking lot canteen idea? As the first step, secure the cooperation of a store with an adjacent parking lot used only occasionally in the evening. Camouflage unsightly sites with trellises and enclose the area with a low trellis fence. Teen-agers will enjoy doing the building and painting, and the fence can be made movable if triangular wooden supports are constructed for each section of the trellis.

The young people can have a hand in painting tables and folding chairs in bright colors. These should be stored under canvas when not in use, or in a shack constructed for the purpose. There should be a "postage stamp" dance floor around which the young people may place the tables and chairs. Women's organizations may well assume responsibility for preparing the food. A committee of young people may be placed in charge of buying new records and running the player, or a

When cooking out of doors loses its charm for our young people, then we may start worrying!

waterproof house may be built for a juke box which provides music.

Of course the canteen should be brightly lighted without, however, too many colored bulbs, and there should be a place provided to plug in the public address system. It is unnecessary to suggest that a snack bar is essential! After the party the committee members could make a game of seeing how quickly tables and chairs can be stored away, the trash containers taken away, and the place left shipshape for use as a parking lot next morning.

This same kind of planning might well be kept in mind in equipping spaces around community buildings. These will be much more attractive to young people if in one corner of the space about them there should be a stage with a waterproof piano and juke box house, a sounding board, and a frame with a movie screen. They'll also want a snack bar, and tables and chairs as well.

Service Activities

Teen age activities can be fun and at the same time beneficial to others, if the leader uses the youth as volunteers part of the time, and then gives them opportunities for their own fun and also arranges special trips, favors, or privileges or parties for them at the completion of a period of service.

Day Camp. For example, very few teen age youth will attend a day camp as campers, but if the program is coeducational and the teen-agers are trained as junior councilors to instruct in their particular sport or hobby, or assist adult councilors in the morning, and then are given freedom for their own sports and swimming in the afternoon, they get the joy of service and their own fun as well.

Street Play. Street play is not ordinarily recommended, but in crowded cities having no playgrounds in some areas, recreation departments or other groups have developed Junior Councils to supervise play on a blocked-off street at certain hours. The young people put out barriers, set out portable volley ball posts and nets, ring tennis, paddle tennis, paddle badminton, tether ball, shuffleboard and other adult play equipment at one end of the street, and hopscotch and children's games at the other. The Senior Council has previously selected a suitable street, secured permission to block it off, has had the city traffic department's men paint all needed lines on it, and gives supervision to the Junior Council, seeing that barriers are put out and taken in promptly and that equipment is not neglected or abused. Frequently Junior and Senior Councils together have cooperated on a neighborhood party, dance or carnival to raise money for this equipment (much of it homemade) which is stored near-by in someone's garage or basement when not in use.

Playground Leaders' Club. Playground Junior Councils and Leaders' Clubs also give much service and have fun, too, under wise leaders. Besides assisting with all kinds of activities for younger children, and especially with children's parties and special events, they are often the mainstay of the director for family fun nights, stunt nights, musical jamborees, mother and daughter or father and son nights, barber shop quartettes and old-fashioned singing school, community sings, carnivals, and other publicity, money raising or community spirit affairs. Not only do the young people serve as ushers, monitors and guards, but they often forget their shyness and take great delight in working up stunts and special numbers to entertain others.

Entertainers Club. When a number of talented teen-agers are found who are interested in helping others to have a good time, a wise leader organizes an Entertainers Club. Usually a prospective member is put on probation for five performances, and during this time the act is censored, revised, improved and polished with the aid of the drama leader or professional actors who serve as volunteers. Then, to maintain membership, the player must give ten performances in a certain number of months. Thus suitable material is developed for family fun nights, for floor shows, and performances in institutions, hospitals, camps and other playgrounds, or for city-wide celebrations and holidays. Most important of all, the Entertainers Club, under a capable, understanding leader, is an excellent means of developing higher standards for the youth who are "show-offs," more confidence and stage presence for those who have real talent, and unexpected abilities and improved personalities in our shy and inhibited youngsters.

Traveling Theater. Another idea which an able drama leader may develop is the traveling theater troupe. With an old moving van remodeled into a stage, two dressing tents, a couple hundred feet of wire for footlights, spotlight and movie machine, an accordion player or a tiny piano, some very interesting variety shows, sketches, skits, and real

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A Year-Round Nature Program

By ELLEN EASTERLY WOOD
Director of Recreation
Danville, Virginia

DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, is one of the few cities to have a year-round nature program sponsored by the Recreation Department. Since June 1943, over 4,000 children took part in the program which included summer playground season field trips, exhibits, and nature crafts. Fall activities were conducted in connection with the public schools, and were so arranged as to supplement the science courses and make nature realistic and thrilling for the growing child. About fifty per cent of the children have made collections of moths, butterflies, abandoned bird nests (collected in winter), insects, leaves, and various types of wood. At several schools cabinets have been made to store these collections, thus enriching the science courses.

The protection of birds, animals and reptiles, and the conservation of trees and wildflowers are among the objectives of Danville's program. Mr. Westbrook, who is in charge of the program, gives instruction in the art of collecting specimens of various kinds, and because of his deep personal interest young and old are finding nature lore a fascinating subject.

To climax the summer and fall program, a Bird Feeding Festival was staged on December 22nd at Ballou Park. Bird feeding stations, made by children under the auspices of the Recreation Department and placed in the park, were on exhibition at the festival. The children brought suet, chick scratch, millet seed, and bread crumbs to feed the birds at Christmas time, following the tradition of Scandinavian countries where deep snow prevails.

A birdhouse contest has been planned for the beginning of the bird season in the early part of March. Mr. Westbrook believes that if a boy is taught to feed a bird or build a home for one he will develop a personal interest in protecting that bird as he would a pet rabbit, kitten, or dog.

Nature study in the

At the age of eight, "Johnny" Westbrook started on his career as a naturalist when a local citizen showed him a butterfly he had caught. Today Mr. Westbrook has a collection of butterflies from all over the world. Under the auspices of the Recreation Department he is inspiring the children of Danville with his own love of nature and is imparting to them his knowledge of nature lore.

Danville program follows the seasons. During the summer of 1943 butterflies, moths, wildflowers, and birds captured the interest of the students. When fall came a marked interest was noted in collecting cocoons and making homes for them. At first feeding the larvae was a problem until the students learned from actual experience that one caterpillar feeds on sweet gum while another prefers the spicebush. Then a natural interest developed in identifying various trees by color, smell, formation, and other means. From the experience of learning to feed caterpillars several students branched off into making collections of various types of wood by cutting small sticks in half, sandpapering and labeling them.

During January and February most of the nature work is done in the field house located in the deep wooded section of Danville's Ballou Park with its 95 acres. This field house, maintained by the Recreation Department, is used as a workshop for nature activities. One room is filled with workbenches and stools where the hikers may mount their specimens, build birdhouses, butterfly nets, collecting boxes, feeding stations, cocoon cages, and other equipment. The other room is filled with shelves where collections are kept with the names of the collectors.

Adults are joining enthusiastically in the nature program, and Sunday afternoon hikes, bird walks, and exhibits have won their interest. During the year civic clubs, churches, schools, and garden clubs have invited Mr. Westbrook to bring exhibits and specimens to show in connection with talks on wildlife in the vicinity of Danville.

Two of the local newspapers print articles each week on nature lore. "Nature Notes on Danville," a weekly feature in the *Sunday Register,* is concerned with native birds, and "Beyond the Beaten Path," a feature of the *Commercial Appeal,* describes seasonal phenomena in the nature world.

Downtown merchants have given a helping hand to encourage interest in nature. Several exhibits of specimens were shown during the summer and a much larger exhibit has been planned for March 1st. Bird clubs and junior and senior naturalist organizations will be formed in the immediate future. In this way a very popular part of the recreation program in Danville will be expanded.

Danville plans to go forward with its nature program. Its dream envisions day camps and overnight camps in the park, and eventually a rustic nature field museum to house the collections.

Museum on Wheels

"I guess I'll go swimming now with the snakes and turtles." That's the way ten year old Frank Evans of the Cranford Playground put it before starting out on one of the many nature collecting trips sponsored last summer by the playground system of the Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission.

This new-found interest in nature recreation among the playground children all came out of the nature "museum on wheels" which visited the seventeen playgrounds in Union County once every week. Insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals of the area were only a part of the excellent collection made by Mrs. Mildred Rulison, supervisor of the county nature program, who was in charge of the traveling museum.

Most of the children were deeply interested in the nature program and they were always ready when the museum on wheels drove up to the playground. The display of animal and plant life was supplemented by a talk on nature by Mrs. Rulison, who always included a discussion on the conservation of nature and the beauty of nature around us. Last summer the topics included, "Our Furry Neighbors," "Flying Feathers," "Six Legged Flyers," "Snakes, Frogs, and Toads," "Sun, Moon, and Stars," "Rocks and Minerals," "Wood Magic," "Wild Flowers," "Wild Food Plants" and "Magic Box."

As soon as the children learned more about nature, many groups were organized to go on collecting trips both in field and stream. The availability of a county park trailside museum and the nature trail which is located in the popular Watchung Reservation of Union County aided greatly in carrying out the program.

From this most successful museum on wheels experiment which stimulated interest in nature activities, the Park Commission feels that perhaps more "around the circuit" affairs—visits by outstanding sports figures, musicians, magicians—would also have much success on New Jersey playgrounds this summer.—*George T. Cron.*

NOTE: It will be of interest to nature leaders and to all interested in nature recreation in all its forms to know that the National Recreation Association will soon have available for distribution a booklet containing suggestions of things which convalescents, invalids, and bedridden may do to keep in touch with the world of nature. Further announcement will be made as soon as the date of publication has been made definite.

Pantomime Is Easy

By GRACE MARIE STANISTREET
Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center
Adelphi College

In RECREATION for May, Miss Stanistreet discussed pantomime as a means of presenting children's plays with ease and effectiveness. She pointed out that pantomime is a natural means of expression for children, but to obtain the best results some direction is necessary. In this issue she presents methods of developing both children's and teachers' ability in this realm.

"We will not differentiate materials," she says, "because pantomime is a universal language, and the teacher will recognize the exercises not suited to her age groups."

THE MOST delightful way to introduce pantomime is by the game method. We suggest a few here but the teacher may devise her own. The games supply variation for the recreation period, or material for rainy day activity, as well as a means of development of body freedom and poise.

The first game is called "Questions without Words." Someone is named "it." He is to ask a question of one or all in the group, by whatever means he chooses, but without words. The group as well is not allowed to talk to him or to any other member. Whatever is said must be said by body means only. In order to get the game started the teacher must be ready to supply a suitable question whispered to the one who is "it." We list a few here:

Where is the church nearest to this place?
What is 9 x 7?
Who comes at Christmas time?
What do you like the best in school?
In what country do they ride camels?
Who was the first president of the United States?
What does a boy hate to do?

The question may be asked in any way. If a mistake is made by questioner or answerer, a gesture of rubbing out is made. To express lack of understanding, shrug the shoulders, upturn the palms, raise the eyebrows, shake the head. The charade methods may be used, that is, each word may be acted in syllables, each word acted, or the whole idea expressed. When the sentence is done in parts, as in the example given, the questioner holds up correct number of fingers to indicate parts. The first question on the list might be asked in this manner:

SCENE I—*(one finger up):* To express "where" point north, east, south and west, questioning look, upturn palms.

SCENE II—*(two fingers up):* "Church" can be traced with the finger on the floor or wall, or the questioner may kneel with hands in attitude of prayer.

SCENE III—*(three fingers up):* "Nearest" may be indicated by placing objects in relation to each other, close—then at a distance.

SCENE IV—*(four fingers up):* "This place" is indicated by tracing outline or initials—or by an attitude indicative of the place.

Another game, called "Freezing," imagines situations in which an individual is caught and "frozen." One person, the leader, imagines that "you" is caught stealing jam from the pantry shelf. "You" has a minute to think, and when the leader says "Freeze," he expresses the feeling and action, and holds until the leader says "Melt." Here again the director must be ready with situations to suggest. We list a few:

Imagine you are a crane standing on the edge of a lake.
You are Cinderella sitting by the fire just after her step-sisters have gone to the ball.
You are Mary Jane having rice pudding for dinner and you hate rice pudding.
You see a snake close by your foot.
You are looking at a giraffe for the first time.

Many more can be devised from literature and from real life experiences.

Another game is called "Be Sensible." The group forms a circle so that all may see and be seen. Then each member, in turn, pretends to touch something. The group guesses what kind of thing is touched, and after all have done it the other senses are expressed in the same way. Suggestions for these follow:

TOUCH—Stroking cat, velvet, flypaper, ice, stove
TASTE—Medicine, ice cream
HEARING—Mice in the wall, thunder, knocking, scream, music
SEEING—Parade, acrobats, baby, airplane, penny on ground, puppet show
SMELLING—Flowers, burning rubber, perfume, escaping gas, burning leaves

Still another game is called "Lights, Camera, Shoot." For this the group may be divided into teams. Each group is given a familiar story and

told to illustrate it in pictures—not crayon or paint pictures, but living pictures, with themselves as the people of the story and perhaps costumes and props if they are available. They may be told to do a jacket for the book or story, or tell the story in a given number of pictures.

In preparation for this the groups should be shown some illustrated books or stories and their suitability and effectiveness discussed. This type of exercise may be developed into an assembly program, with the story told in front of the curtain, and the curtain drawn at the right moment to show the picture. The storyteller is quiet while the curtain is open, and if a piano is available suitable music may accompany the tableau.

"Nosebag Dramatics," although not limited to pantomime, is fun as a surprise stunt. The leader or committee prepares in advance a number of paper bags filled with heterogeneous pieces of costume or props. For example, one may contain an alarm clock, a piece of string, a pair of spectacle rims, a bandana handkerchief, a tin cup. These are given to members of the group who are told they must put them on — and the paper bag as well — in such a way that they represent a story character or one from life, and act accordingly. There is little need for direction in this. The grab bag interest and the articles themselves are sufficiently stimulating to the children's imaginations to produce some clever stunts and impersonations.

"What Am I Doing?" is obviously a game of action. The individual goes through the motions of washing, of drying dishes, of putting on a coat, of any of the automatic operations which are repeated daily. Only tables and chairs may be used for props. The object of the game is not only to make quite clear what the operation is but also the kinds, textures, the weights, the sizes, and other qualities of objects handled or suggested.

It is an easy step from this to "What Am I Thinking?" but this game proves that pantomime is an art. Again situations are imagined. For instance, a small boy at dancing school tries to avoid the teacher's eye. He is thinking, as he moves in his chair to make himself as small as possible, "Aw gee, I hate this place. Why do I have to come here every Saturday, my only holiday? I could have so much fun fishing or playing ball with Jim, or swimming or—Aw gee, she sees me—duck—here she is—well I suppose I have to get up—I don't want to but I will." The children may suggest situations to each other or each one may make his own scene.

After this, "Pantomime Plays for One" are easy. These can be developed by the whole group or by the individual. One group origi-

(Continued on page 156)

Pantomime Study at the Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center

Joseph Lee Day
July 28, 1944

In June 1919, Joseph Lee was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by General Clarence R. Edwards for his work for servicemen in World War I

JULY 28 — the last Friday in July — will be Joseph Lee Day for 1944. This year we hope that in addition to his tremendous contributions to the play life of our country as the father of the playground movement, programs in his honor will include his contribution to the morale and well-being of our uniformed forces in the First World War through the War Camp Community Service. For this he was awarded The Distinguished Service Medal. We hope also that programs this year will include as many adults as possible, not only as audience but also as participators in these programs.

The following are suggestions for a community-wide celebration in honor of Joseph Lee:

In Advance

1. Ask for an official Proclamation from the Mayor, authorizing a special celebration in all parks and playgrounds in honor of Joseph Lee.

2. Arrange for editorials in all the newspapers, not only about Joseph Lee but about the progress and program of your own recreation department.

3. Arrange local radio broadcasts. (See list of material available if you do not want to write your own.)

4. Ask the local ministers to mention Joseph Lee and his work in their sermons.

5. Plan window displays and exhibits for downtown stores, offices or banks. Use the Mayor's Proclamation, Joseph Lee's photograph, and statements or exhibits from your own department.

6. If you are acquiring a new play area, why not name and dedicate it on Joseph Lee Day?

Program Suggestions for July 28

1. A block dance
2. A costume picnic
3. A central play day
4. A water carnival
5. A story picnic
6. Community picnic and field day
7. A patriotic playground pageant
8. A folk dance festival
9. Visitors' Day for all playgrounds and recreation buildings
10. Special recognition of all volunteer or junior play leaders
11. Bulletin board display of recreation in your city—then and now.
12. A model of the first play area in your city
13. A pictorial map of all recreation areas in your city. (Items 11, 12, and 13 could be used effectively for the window display.)
14. The playing of Joseph Lee's favorite games in costumes of 1870 and 1920
15. A fashion show of sports

We are greatly indebted to the Recreation Commission of Long Beach, California, for supplying the cuts reproduced on the two following pages. These were published, along with many other attractive pictures of the recreation activities promoted by the Commission, in its most recent Annual Report, issued under the title, "Recreation—Always Essential; Vital in Wartime."

costumes in 1910, or earlier in contrast with those of today. (Baseball, swimming, tennis, and motoring will be especially good.)

16. A dramatization, by the boys, of of the first basketball game. (See list of material available.)
17. A midsummer musical, featuring old and new songs, preceded or followed by speeches or talks by local leaders

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Program Material Available for Joseph Lee Day

(NOTE: Please do not order any that you will not actually need or use. Our stock is limited, and paper is scarce.)

1. Reproductions of two photographs of Joseph Lee. Free.
2. Godfather of Play. Reprint from *Reader's Digest*. Free.
3. The Ballad of Joseph Lee (M118). A pageant with a speaker and chorus. Could also be used for radio. Free.
4. Children Need a Place to Play (M.B. 1235). Playground pageant. Free.
5. The Pursuit of Joy—a play pageant. Free.
6. National Joseph Lee Day — a spiral-bound booklet issued in 1937, with biographical sketch, favorite sayings, incidents in his life, and favorite games and sports. Free.
7. A Few of Joseph Lee's Favorite Games (M.B. 1236). Free.
8. Joseph Lee Day—July 30, 1943—as celebrated in San Francisco (M.B. 1353). Free.
9. Radio script regarding the life of Joseph Lee (M.B. 1107). Can be used as a play. Free.
10. The First Basketball Game (M.P. 320). $.15.

References from RECREATION

December 1937 issue—devoted entirely to Joseph Lee

November 1939—*Spirit of Joseph Lee Day*

May 1939—*National Joseph Lee Day and Its Significance for the Interpretation of Community Recreation*

May 1940—*Doing It the Joseph Lee Way*

July 1943—*The Sunshine Fairy* (back cover)

October 1943—*Joseph Lee Day—1943*

Special Pageant and Festival Material

Music Unites the Nation (M.P. 350). $.10

Youth at War Pageant (M.P. 343). $.10

I Hear America Singing (M.P. 340). $.10

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Children of the Americas (M.P. 338). $.10

All for Victory (M.P. 337). A playground pageant for young children. $.10

Americans All (M.P. 331). $.10

Young Americans in Action (M. P. 311). A citizenship pantomime. $.10

A Playground Fair (M.P. 304). $.15

Bibliography of Patriotic Pageants for Playground and Community Celebrations (M.P. 341). $.10

This Is What Happened in a Few Cities

Lynchburg, Virginia. Celebrated Joseph Lee Day on all the city playgrounds. Joseph Lee's favorite games were featured. A short story that he wrote, "The Summer Fairy," was told to the smaller children.

Los Angeles, California. By official proclamation of the Mayor, fifty-two playgrounds and community centers sponsored activities illustrating the value of ideas advocated by Joseph Lee—character building, prevention of delinquency and good citizenship teaching. Children and adults participated in plays, festivals, sports and tournaments.

Memphis, Tennessee. This city dedicated its summer playground program to the memory of Joseph Lee. On Joseph Lee Day the story of Joseph Lee was part of every program. Music, community singing, games, dancing, and a handcraft display were featured.

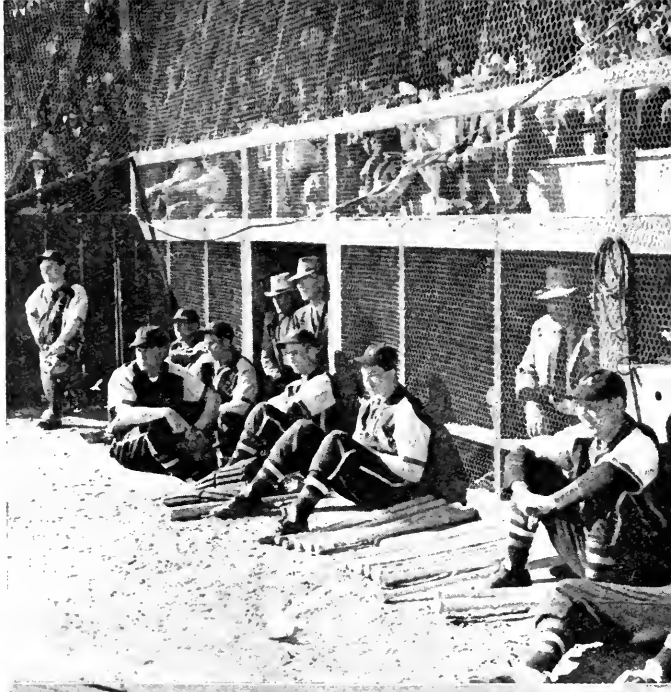
San Francisco, California. A Central Play Day was a preliminary to the national observance of Joseph Lee Day. Relay races, singing games, combative sports, swimming and softball were some of the events. This city conducted appropriate programs all week, ending in the celebration of National Joseph Lee Day. (See RECREATION, July 1943.)

Pueblo, Colorado. The City Council issued an Official Proclamation setting aside Joseph Lee Day for appropriate programs to be arranged and dedicated on all city playgrounds.

White Plains, New York. Suitable exercises were held on each program in connection with editorials which appeared in the paper.

St. Paul, Minnesota. "In tribute to Joseph Lee, the Father of America's Playgrounds," programs were held at all playground centers. Exhibitions of playground activities were held for the communities, with doll buggy parades, track events, singing games, softball, volley ball, drum and bugle

(Continued on page 156)



Planning for Plans

By MILO F. CHRISTIANSEN
Superintendent of Recreation
Washington, D. C.

In presenting this article, Mr. Christiansen calls attention to two facts which should be kept in mind in considering the Washington situation: 1. Washington is governed by the Congress; 2. With the enactment by Congress in April 1942 of Public Law 534, all public recreation programs and operation were unified under a recreation board. The board is made up of seven members—four citizens and three officials representing three agencies which control or have jurisdiction over the properties being used in the unified program. These agencies are: the Board of Education, the National Capital Parks Office, and the District of Columbia Commissioners.

PLANS ARE the net result of ideas, suggestions, or recommendations which take form in a tangible blue print, pattern or scheme. Sometimes these plans are the result of the efforts of one person or one agency. Often they are a reflection of the effort of many persons.

Many states, counties, and municipalities never get beyond the preliminary planning stage. Much time and energy, many meetings and conferences are devoted to the planning of facilities that never materialize. Too much of our planning has no sound basis upon which individuals or groups can agree; and agreement is necessary if decisions reached are to carry weight. Lack of prestige or recognition for agency representatives may directly affect the preparation of plans or the actual carrying out of plans agreed upon which the board, departments, or agencies must follow through to completion.

As in most cities, public recreation facilities in the Nation's Capital are located on school, park, housing, and other municipal properties. Many times property jurisdiction overlaps or is contiguous. Practical problems must be resolved despite mixed jurisdictional control. Administration and planning are correspondingly complicated. In Washington, there are 115 active recreation units in operation of which seventy are year-round. Eventually this number will expand to 161 as funds are made available for construction, development, maintenance, and operation.

Private agency groups in the Nation's Capital, as in other cities, have long range programs of facility development which must be brought into the community plan if the public is to derive maximum benefits. The overlapping and duplication on the part of community agencies in our cities can create a serious problem. The lay public is often at a loss to know to whom to present their needs and problems.

Some Basic Principles

Let us analyze some of the prerequisites which fit into a pattern whereby plans can be drafted which will directly benefit the whole community pattern.

Certainly land acquisition is basic. This should be the professional responsibility of the municipality's land acquisition agency, and purchase should be upon recommendation of those qualified to recommend. This program must relate to existing social and economic factors, population trends, available facilities, and the basic city plan. The acquisition program directly affects existing and proposed schools, parks, and housing facilities. Private agency facilities must also be considered.

Another basic element which fits into the plans and the planning process is the maintenance and development program. Functional designing by qualified technicians who have taken into consideration the factors of operation and supervision will contribute to maximum use and win the taxpayer's satisfaction.

If little of the planning that is discussed actually takes shape in the form of tangible results, it is because the structure or the method for accomplishment of the net result lacks adequate authority or recognition. It is essential that the agency which does the planning be clothed with the proper authority or possess enough prestige and importance so that its recommendations will carry the necessary ammunition for defense against all obstacles.

Methods Used in Washington

A most effective method exists in Washington for actually accomplishing "plans." The Coordinating Committee on Recreation Plans was created in 1935 by the President's Committee on Recreation for the District of Columbia, which was appointed as a step towards unifying a complex

recreation system. The Coordinator of Recreation appointed by the Committee was named chairman of the planning committee. By the creation of this committee every public agency which had a direct or indirect responsibility in the recreation picture was formally brought together. It is, generally speaking, a technicians' committee including representatives from the public school officers, the municipal architect's office, the National Capital Parks office, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the Recreation Department. The Superintendent of Recreation has been the chairman of the Committee since 1942 when the unified plan of operation under the Recreation Board was set up.

Meetings are held regularly, but special meetings are called when necessary.

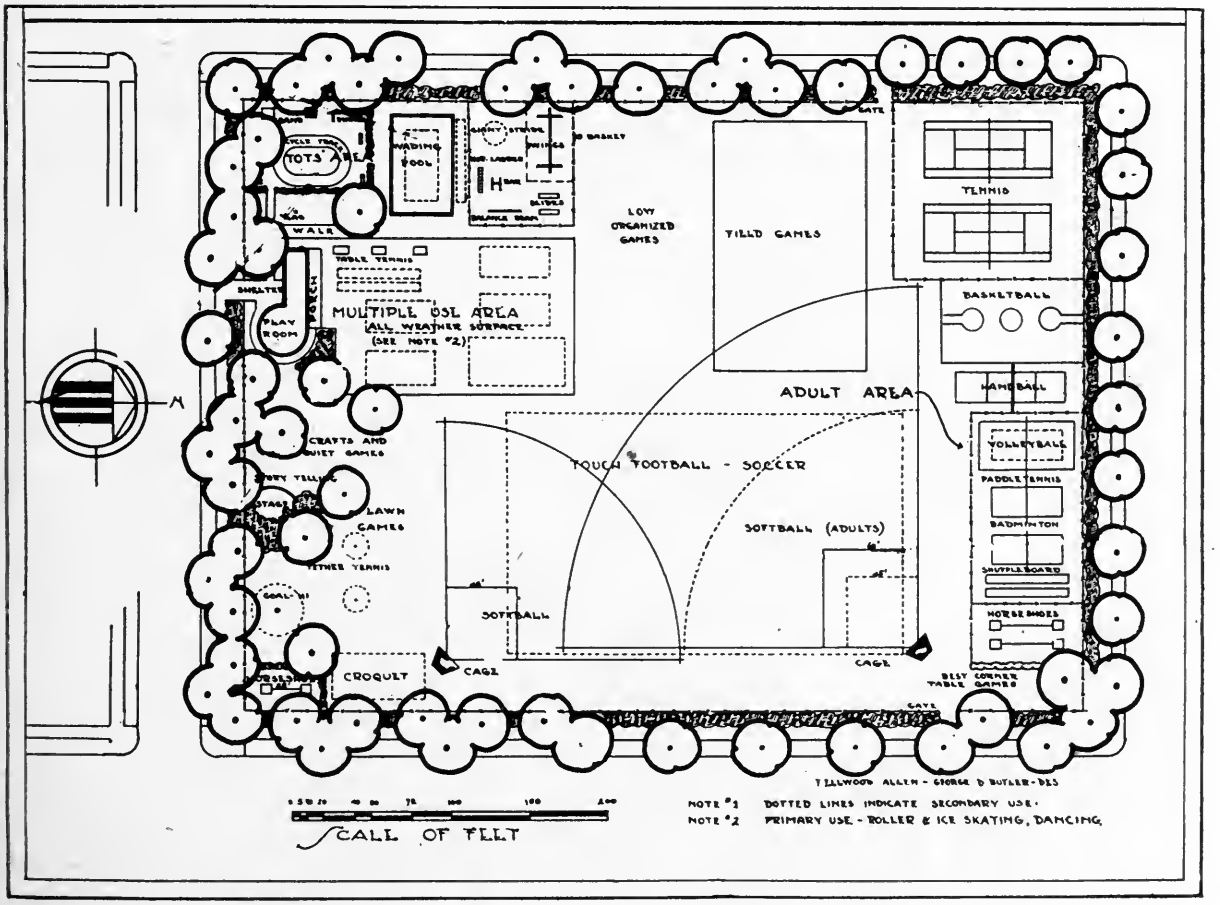
"The design and construction of public recreation facilities should be a composite of the best thoughts, ideas and experiences based on the most widely accepted principles and practices. Not only must the technician make his contribution, but the layman who pays the bill must have a voice in the entire project of community planning."

Representatives of the housing agency and other groups are invited when problems affecting these agencies are to be discussed. Recently the Committee enlarged its membership to include the executive secretary of the Recreation Division of the Council of Social Agencies as a regular member, a step which promises even more effective correlation and coordination of private and public agency plans and programs.

It can readily be noted that this technical committee membership provides a complete cross section of functions and responsibilities. Every aspect of the recreation field is thus tied into the complete problem as affecting studies and research, acquisition of properties, maintenance, construction, development, and public use.

All subjects brought before the technicians'

This plan was prepared by the National Recreation Association to show how a five acre site may be developed to provide all the major features considered essential in a neighborhood playground which may be used by the entire family. A bulletin containing a somewhat larger reproduction of the plan, with illustrations and an explanation of the features presented, is available from the Association at 15 cents.



committee are thoroughly discussed by the members who give careful thought to all the problems presented for consideration. Final agreements and recommendations arrived at by these technicians are subject to the administrative action of the respective boards or departments, where citizen representation may give final approval or disapproval. Disapproval may result in a joint committee meeting to discuss plans further in the interest of providing maximum benefits and facilities.

Typical Problems Discussed

It seems desirable here to refer to the aforementioned functions in relation to the total problem by typical problems, projects, and accomplishments.

A typical problem for the Coordinating Committee on Recreation Plans may be the construction of a new school building. The preliminary plans for the building and grounds are brought before the committee where every specific problem on recreation use, maintenance, and operation is studied. Recommendations may follow for providing adequate office space for recreation staff; for designing facilities so that they are easily accessible to the outdoor recreation facilities or so they can be cut off from the rest of the building; for furnishing adequate showers and lockers for community recreation use, and storage space for equipment supplies; and perhaps for locating a swimming pool so that the school's central heating plant can economically heat the pool. Possibly additional land must be acquired for community tennis courts, hard surfaced areas for all weather use, and playground equipment for smaller children. Or other problems of this nature may be brought up for discussion.

Another example of coordinated action occurs when the housing authority representatives bring their preliminary plans for study. The location of a project is often times determined by the availability of existing play space. Discussion may center around the location of the housing project community building so that it will provide access and availability to the adjacent community. The design of outdoor and building facilities may also be discussed so that maximum services can be provided.

In Washington the Recreation Board operates in all public and some private housing projects which include community buildings, altogether in twelve different projects. By agreement, the housing authorities (public and private) finance maintenance and custodial services; the Recreation Department provides recreational leadership and supplies.

One of the significant developments of recent date was the preparation of two sets of desirable minimum standards for school outdoor properties to be used for community recreation. These standards relate primarily to prerequisites for outdoor space, land acquisition, equipment, relation of hard surfaced to turfed areas. Study of these standards by the Recreation Board and by the Board of Education is part of a collaborative effort which later will be applied to existing school units as well as to future acquisition and development.

Copies of the minutes of the meetings of the coordinating committee serve as a record and reference so that agency representatives are able to keep constantly informed of problems and recommendations.

Thus it can be seen that an effective scheme is in operation for processing Washington's plans for recreational facilities. When the process has reached the stage of seeking appropriations, the taxpayers of the city, the proper administrative boards, the District Commissioners, and the Congressional committees can be assured that joint agreement has been reached on plans. This means economy, elimination of duplication and overlapping, clarification of functions, and the development of a public respect, understanding, and confidence for the many elements that go into making an effective public recreation system.

NOTE: The Board of Education of the District of Columbia recently notified the National Capital Park and Planning Commission that provision for adequate indoor recreation facilities will be incorporated in the designs of all public schools erected in the future adjacent to public playgrounds. The Board of Education also notified the Recreation Board of the District of Columbia of its action. The resolution passed asks that the municipal architect consult with all of the agencies concerned with the preparation of plans for school buildings to learn what is needed for indoor recreation facilities.

April 1st marks the opening of the Home Playyard Contest held each spring in Washington under the direction of the Child Traffic Safety Council, with the sponsorship of the Recreation Department, Recreation Division of the Council of Social Agencies, Junior Board of Commerce, Department of Vehicles and Traffic, the Traffic Advisory Council, and the public and parochial schools.

First Aid for Depleted Supervisory Staffs!

By R. W. ROBERTSON
Superintendent, Recreation Department
Oakland, California

The Recreation Department of Oakland, California, recommends for your consideration, in these days of manpower shortage, the "Division Director System," the core of which is using to the greatest possible advantage a recreation department's most experienced directors. If you are one of the many executives who are spending sleepless nights worrying over the seemingly hopeless problem of leadership, don't miss this article!

HAS YOUR part-time playground director turnover been terrific in the months since Pearl Harbor?

Do you find your new playground directors younger and greener, or older and just as green and less sure of their abilities?

Has your full-time staff been reduced so that adequately training and supervising the new playground directors is a problem?

Do your prospective directors lose interest in working for you if they learn they have to travel very far to their assignments or to meetings?

We hazard the guess that "Yes" will be your answer to these questions. We are all in the same boat. As a partial solution to the problems involved in operating playgrounds these days, the Oakland, California, Recreation Department recommends trying the division director system. The core of the plan is using your most experienced playground directors to the greatest advantage.

The system has been in practice in Oakland for almost two years, and without it the problems of personnel and training and of program development would have driven the supervisory and office staff crazy. As plans for the summer of 1942 were laid, it became apparent that preparations should be made for the time when the supervisory staff, composed of men and women of military service age, would be off to the war, and still a playground program for this city of 325,000 people must go on efficiently and effectively. From this realization came the genesis of the division director plan. Today, with but one or two supervisors to assist the superintendent, where there had been six, we can see the point was well taken.

A number of other factors entered into the adoption of this system. The quality of new recruits, judged from a professional viewpoint, was below that of the depression years. Military service, industry and marriage were cutting deeply into the ranks of the "old-timers"

Many of the residents of Oakland consider sailing on Lake Merritt one of the best of the sports made available for their enjoyment

who remained as playground directors for the period of their college training. This was serious, for these experienced directors had played an important part in establishing an esprit de corps and in setting and maintaining the standards for good playground direction. Transportation, too, with street cars and busses figuring more prominently in the lives of the part-time directors, forced adjustments in our previous procedures and practices.

Details of the Plan

Briefly, the division director system calls for setting up geographic areas of the city and assigning to each a full-time recreation director. These division directors are responsible for the quality of the recreation program on all school and municipal playgrounds within the division operated by the Recreation Department, and for coordinating these activities with the program of the group work agencies and churches to avoid duplication of program and leadership. By assigning thoroughly experienced playground directors who have been "through the mill" to these division jobs, the widest possible benefit is made of their experience, professional attitudes, and knowledge of playground directing techniques.

In selecting the division directors, the most experienced people on the part-time staff were considered. Full-time appointments were made upon the basis of experience as a playground director in a variety of situations in Oakland, ability to cope with difficult behavior problems, skill in organizing their work and time to good advantage, ability to work with people both subordinate and superior, and a pleasant manner and appearance that will represent the Department well when working with parents, teachers, and representatives of group work agencies, including the churches. A good division director is familiar with the city and with his division in particular, especially with its recreation facilities and its resources for recreation leadership and enriched leisure-time program, and with the recreational and leisure-time needs of people within that area whom he is there to serve.

Two of those appointed came from civil service eligible list, thereby exhausing it. Being loathe to make permanent appointments in this classification at a time when a representative field of candidates could not be secured because of the war, the Civil Service Board declared the position open for emergency appointments for the duration of the war. The remaining appointments were made upon this basis. To qualify for permanent rating, these people will have to appear sufficiently high upon the civil service list established for this classification within six months after the war. In practice, all the division directors in Oakland are women.

There are four phases of the division director's job: assisting the Department in keeping all the playgrounds and centers open and running at maximum capacity; developing a good municipal recreation program through working with the playground and center directors; checking on certain operational details for the supervisors and office staff; and in a public relations capacity assisting in the coordinating of the Recreation Department activities with those of group work agencies and schools carrying on leisure-time programs for all ages of patrons in the division. In the summer, when the playgrounds are open seven to eleven hours per day, an assistant division director working on an hourly basis is assigned to each area to assist the regular division director.

Primarily, the division director's job is that of "breaking in" the new playground directors. Heretofore new directors could be required to attend group training meetings or would be assigned to work with an experienced director, and four supervisors could oversee their work on the grounds. Now, with the rapid turnover, total reliance upon group training is impractical, and the new director must learn by doing in the job situation, without the benefit of the experience of a second director. By going to the playground and actually working along with the new director for several days, the division director can get over department standards and practices and assist with the laying out of a program for the ground. Turnover being a major problem, the division director is constantly on the alert for new playground directors, either outstanding high school seniors, or young mothers or older women. Likely persons are referred to the main office for interview and appointment. When a regular director must be absent from the grounds, the division director can assist by finding a substitute director, or taking over the grounds for the day herself.

As the new directors become more familiar with their duties and responsibilities, it is the duty of the division director to see that the recreation program makes the best use of facilities and meets the needs of the patrons and possible patrons. Suggestions and assistance can be given the regular playground directors from time to time which will vitalize and extend the activities on their grounds

Members of the New Century Community Center in Oakland give a performance of "The King's Crown"

or help them solve difficult behavior and adjustment problems. Regular instructional and operational meetings of all the directors in the division are conducted by the division director. Volunteer workers from among parents and neighbors can be sought to give special leadership, such as storytelling, for enrichment of the playground program, and these volunteers can work under the direction of the regular playground director. The division director, too, can assist the playground directors in handling larger events involving several playgrounds, such as skating parties, swims and picnics. The good division director gets around to every playground in her division frequently and keeps an eye on all that goes on.

To the division director can be left the clearing of certain details in the actual employment of new directors—securing work permits when necessary, overseeing the ten volunteer training hours, discussing availability and neighborhoods where they can work, arranging about inventories, keys and introductions. The division director can see that the regular playground directors are prompt with their required monthly reports and have complied with all calls for special information pertaining to the operation of playgrounds. The division director can be constantly watching the use of equipment, and making suggestions and taking steps to prolong its useful life. Where damage has been done to playground property, or equipment has been lost, the division director can see that any monetary replacement is made before collecting becomes impossible.

As the representatives of the Recreation Department in the area, these leaders are to work with any community councils interested in furthering recreation, to the end that the recreation program for the area is unified, meets the needs, and avoids duplication of time and effort upon the part of leaders. The division director should know the group work leaders in the division, the school principals and physical education teachers, the religious education directors and the civilian defense leaders, the P.T.A. and Dads' Clubs leaders, and the local police officers. The facilities for recreation in the area not under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department should be known to the division director so that it can be determined if the recreation program is making the fullest use of all possible resources.

Since it is the division director who has her fingers on the pulse of the community, it is to be expected that she would have recommendations to make from time to time in regard to improvement of facilities or leadership, or for new programs to be developed or new lines of coordination with other agencies to be tried. Such recommendations

(Continued on page 162)

The Sports Program at the Falk Corporation

By D. M. DELANY

Mr. Delany, Director of Employee Activities, the Falk Corporation, presents the case for competitive athletics in the industrial recreation program and gives reasons for his belief in its values. Many boys coming into industry from school, he suggests, have taken part in competitive athletics and want to continue playing certain games on this basis. Participation in competitive sports develops leadership qualities and initiative which make themselves felt in the shop. Moreover, the recognition a worker receives through skill in playing games may stir him to achievement along other lines.

AT THE FALK Corporation in Milwaukee more than two dozen recreation activities which appeal to young and old are being conducted, but the tendency is to emphasize competitive sports because they provide not only recreation for the participants but great enjoyment to fellow employees who watch the games.

Among the most popular activities are baseball, basketball, football, bowling, golf, tennis, soccer, rifle shooting, softball, and boxing. The program of sports at Falk has been undoubtedly influenced by the fact that Richard S. Falk, who initiated it, was himself an athlete in college, has been a leader of sports in the Middle West, and is a man with a vision to see the value of such activities in industrial plants.

We believe at Falk that intershop leagues are splendid activities but that employees who excel in an activity should have opportunity to develop their ability to a high degree. Games with outside plants are accordingly a part of the program. Baseball is naturally one of the most popular sports, and our team has carried off high honors in playing with outside teams. A special effort has been made to schedule games at camps for the enjoyment of servicemen. The Falk football team, too, has made a record for itself, having won the Wisconsin industrial championship last fall.

Other sports in which Falk teams compete with outside teams include basketball, and in this sport we have three teams playing in leagues, with the girls' team scheduling games with the WACs.

(Continued on page 157)

Soccer teams from the Falk Corporation and the Royal Air Force played a rousing game!

"Figure It Out"

The Fifth War Loan Drive will be conducted June 12-July 8. What will your playgrounds do to help?

WRITTEN to fit many types of presentation under all sorts of conditions, "Figure It Out" is a play providing an ideal activity for overall community participation, with the special cooperation of high school groups, boys clubs, Boy and Girl Scout troops, playground groups, and youth and community organizations of all types.

So flexible is the script in regard to casting and staging, that the show may be presented in whole or in part, outdoors or indoors, on the radio as well as on the stage. Such songs as "Let's All Back the Attack," "Squander Bug," and "Double Duty Dollar" may be used independently. If you can't do the whole show, you can present a portion of it, or use the motion picture film (16-mm) to cover the more complicated sequences, or play or sing some of the music in connection with various kinds of summer programs.

The cast may range from 50 to 200 or more. Most of the parts are for boys and girls in the teen age group, but there are several roles for adults. Every type of dramatic and musical talent in the community may find a place in the show.

The production may be presented complete with band, orchestra, and various choral and dance groups, or it may be staged very simply, to piano or organ accompaniment, with a small chorus and a few singing principals. Except for a curtain, some simple drapes or flats, a few platforms, some sort of lighting arrangement, and a motion picture screen and projector, no scenery or stage equipment is required.

Previous productions of "Figure It Out" have varied from extreme simplicity to extreme elaborateness. The particular theatrical resources and talent available within the community determine the nature and scope of each production.

Since its highly successful tryout production in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, in March, almost 1,000 requests for "Figure It Out" scripts have come in. About 150 school and community groups have already presented productions or have scheduled them for spring and summer, in many instances during the Fifth War Loan Drive (June 12-July 8). Such productions have a double value; they dramatize the reasons behind buying War Bonds and Stamps, and they make logical the purchasing of War Bonds as the price of admission.

Your local War Finance Committee will be glad to cooperate with you in presenting "Figure It Out" in your community during the Fifth War Loan Drive or at some other time during the summer. You will probably get additional help from such local organizations as your community theater group, your OCD Council, your P.T.A. and the women's and professional groups in your town.

For a sample script with music, write to the Education Section, War Finance Division, Washington, D. C. Those groups which decide to do "Figure It Out" should ask for extra scripts, the production manual, the slide film, orchestrations of the songs, and (if required) film for the motion picture sequences.

If you are looking for summer program material that is fresh and interesting and, at the same time, will be a real contribution to your community's understanding of an important war problem, figure yourself in with "Figure It Out."

Are you looking for timely patriotic material to use in your summer dramatic program, at your community rallies, your outdoor celebrations and meetings, your young people's recreation programs of various kinds?

If you are, consider the Treasury Department's new full-length "living newspaper" play, "Figure It Out," which combines entertainment with dynamic presentation of the facts about War Finance. The play uses live action, film sequences, nine topical songs, lively dances, charts, and crisp narration to tell the graphic story of our home-front battle against inflation and waste.

Just Remember!

If your group feels that it cannot undertake a complete production of "Figure It Out," perhaps you could do a part of the show, or at least make use of some of the tuneful songs which make up its score. Or perhaps you could find the time and the occasion to present some

of the other War Bond program material available from the Education Section of the War Finance Division, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. This includes shorter plays (15-30 minutes), skits, radio scripts, and pageants.

Material in all these categories for groups of various types and age levels is available on request from the Education Section. Most of this material, together with numerous program ideas and sources, is listed in the free booklet, *War Savings Programs for Schools at War*. In making your requests, please specify what kind of material is needed and the nature of the producing group.

"Whenever young Americans come together," says the booklet on *War Savings Programs* mentioned above, "in classrooms and assembly halls, at rallies and athletic events, for meetings, plays, pageants, parades, concerts, song festivals, quiz contests, radio broadcasts—at any gathering of eager and enthusiastic young people, there is a great opportunity for the kind of program that will touch off that youthful eagerness and enthusiasm, for a program which will give every young citizen the lift that comes from feeling his own activity a part of the larger whole, a program which will fill each one of them with a surge of mingled pride and determination that will put him in a fighting mood, ready to redouble his contribution to the winning of the war.

"And whenever such a spirit is kindled, whatever the immediate occasion may be, that is the time for a War Savings appeal. There is the place to stress the value and the urgent necessity for buying more War Bonds and Stamps."

"Figure It Out" presents inflation in down-to-earth terms. With bigger and better boxes of candy, boys compete for the affection of one girl until the last suitor finds it necessary to bring in his box on a wheelbarrow!

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

"*AIR FUTURE*, The," by Burnet Hershey. Duell, Sloan and Pearce, New York. 258 pp. $2.75.

"Alaska, Road to," by Douglas Coe. Julian Messner, Inc., New York. 175 pp. $2.50. Adventure reading for children.

"Arctic, Friendly," by Vilhjalmer Stefansson. Macmillan, New York, 1943. 812 pp. $5.00. A timely new edition.

"Canada's Last Frontier," by Trevor Lloyd. Vol. 3, No. 4—"Behind the Headlines." Canadian Institute of International Affairs. Toronto, Ontario. 10 cents.

Chemist. "So You Want to Be a Chemist?" by Herbert Coith. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, 1943. 128 pp. $1.50.

Conservation. "Helps in Planning Conservation Learning Experiences." By five authors. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Madison, Wisconsin. 57 pp. July 1943.

Girl Scouts. "Leadership of Girl Scout Troops." Program Division, Girl Scouts, 155 East 44th Street, New York, 1943. 365 pp. Order by catalogue number 20-115. Price 50 cents. Concerning the intermediate program for Girl Scouts 10 through 14 years of age.

Lumbering, motion picture on—"Over Pine Mountain Trails," 16 mm., sound, color, 25 minutes. "Timber in the Ozarks." Transportation charges. Dierks Lumber and Coal Company, 1006 Grand Avenue, Kansas City 6, Missouri.

Orient. "Looking at the Far East." A Unit for the social studies classes of the Dallas, Texas, junior and senior high schools. Dallas Board of Education, Dallas, Texas. Bulletin number 188. 62 pp. October 1943. Price 10 cents.

Plants for Indoors. "Selection and Care of Plants in the Classroom," by Ellen Eddy Shaw. National Audubon Society, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York. Price 10 cents. Suggestions for community houses.

Sand Dunes. "Dune Boy," by Edwin Way Teale. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York. Price $3.00. How a boy caught endless enchantment of the out-of-doors. An example of what leaders in nature recreation are striving to accomplish—to discover the golden fleece.

Trees. Booklets and leaflets for teen age youth. Simply written and profusely illustrated. Western Pine Association, 510 Yeon Building, Portland 4, Oregon.

Trees, Motion Pictures of. "Trees and Men." 16 mm. or 35 mm. sound, 40 minutes. Modern logging in the Northwest and conservation. "Trees and Homes." 16 mm. or 35 mm. sound, technicolor, 30 minutes. Logging, lumber manufacture, and conservation. Return shipping costs must be paid by exhibitor. Weyerhaeuser Sales Company, P.O. Box 629, Newark, New Jersey.

Trips. "Science Excursions into the Community," by George E. Pitluga. 154 pp. $1.75. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. A handbook for teachers of grades four through eight.

"Venezuela, Land of Oil." 16 page sketch with maps and graphs. World Affairs Council, 32 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

"Visual Education." 26-page catalog listing nature subjects that can be visualized with colored slides. Society for Visual Education, Department 105, 100 East Ohio Street, Chicago, Illinois.

"Wild Flower Booklet," by Frank Morris, Federation of Ontario Naturalists, 198 College Street, Toronto. Price 10 cents. 41 pp. on wild flower conservation.

Wood. Educational series. Veneers. Five pamphlets, each

(Continued on page 165)

FOR NATURE'S CHILDREN

For Nature's children I make this plea,
May they be here long after me.
May those who follow hear the call
Of old bobwhite in spring and fall.
And may they share the joy that's mine
When there's a fish upon the line.
Too barren were the earth for words
If gone were all the fish and birds.
Fancy a youth with all its dreams
That finds no fish within its streams.
Our world with life is wondrous fair.
God grant we do not strip it bare.

—Anonymous

WORLD AT PLAY

Patterson Pictures, Santa Rosa, California

The Indestructible Heart of a Redwood

OVER thirty years ago, near Crescent City, California, a redwood tree about three feet in diameter and believed to be 200 feet high was cut down and a section sawed out to make way for a road. The section cut out was about forty feet in length. Thirteen branches are shown in the picture, three of which are over ten inches in diameter and more than thirty feet high. The light spot near the center of the photograph shows a three foot contact with the soil, and the nourishment of all the new trees comes through roots sent down into the soil at this point.—From *American Forests*.

Junior High Schools Adopt Behavior Code

A CODE to govern the behavior of the junior high school students in New York City, prepared by the youngsters themselves, has been adopted by a majority vote of the eighty-three junior high schools, representing a student population of 100,000. Every one of the junior high schools pupils received a copy of the behavior code which follows:

"1. I will never, knowingly, by word or deed, injure anyone's person, feelings or property in any manner.

"2. I will always respect the religious beliefs of others as I will respect my own.

"3. I will show courtesy to other people at all times, particularly to my elders.

"4. I will abide by the laws and regulations of my school and community.

"5. I will be honest with myself and others and I will practice cleanliness of mind and body at all times."

Joe E. Brown Reports on Servicemen

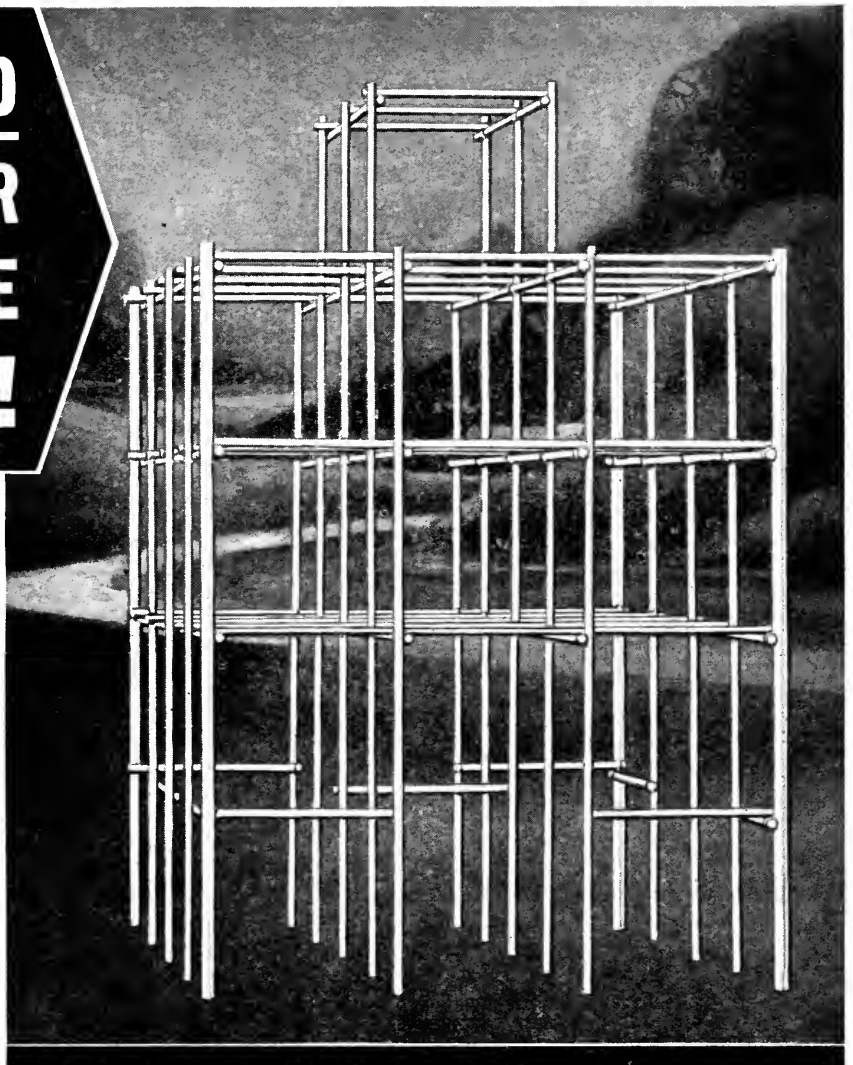
WHEN Joe E. Brown, well-known actor who in civic life is a member of the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Commission, returned to Los Angeles after months spent in entertaining servicemen overseas, he was more convinced than ever of the value of sports and recreation in preparing young Americans for the most severe tests of war or peace. A background of sports and recreation is one of the most important factors operating to keep the boys in uniform physically and mentally fit, he found.

Describing the appalling contrast between the plight of children in Italy and those in this country, Mr. Brown said that Los Angeles children are fortunate to have good playgrounds and recreation centers while the Italian children not only have no places to play but also are unable to go to school because school buildings have been blown to dust in the fighting. The comedian resumed his duties as a member of the Recreation Commission the day following his return.

City-County Park Planned

COBB COUNTY and the city of Marietta, Georgia, will construct a 40-acre recreation park at a cost of $250,000. A one story building will contain a combination auditorium-gymnasium with two basketball courts, a stage and collapsible seats, as well as dressing rooms, three clubrooms, a kitchen, snack bar, game room, and library.

LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE NOW!



The War Production Board has released materials to us to make a *limited* number of "Junglegym" Climbing Structures . . . for America's schools, parks and playgrounds . . . because the "Junglegym" Climbing Structure contributes vitally to the health and proper physical development of young America.

No wartime sacrifice in quality! All-steel construction, hot galvanized inside and out! Installed size: center tower, 10′-6″ high; outside wall, 8′-6″ high; length, 6′-3″ width, 8′-4″. Capacity, 35 children.

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Just a few are available . . . for *immediate* sale . . . first come, first served!

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4610 Grand Ave., Duluth, Minn.

Week-End Camping—Los Angeles girls over nine years of age enjoy week-end camping at the Giffith Park Girls Camp. The outings, which last from Friday afternoon to Sunday afternoon, include housing in comfortable cottages, six meals, and a program of outdoor activities and camp fun —all for $3.00.

A Community Play Day

(Continued from page 130)

summed up the Play Day in an editorial on the preceding day. The editor wrote:

"Almost every type of recreation common in Brattleboro is in tomorrow's program, along with a few tricks that are new. . . . Brattleboro not only will indulge in all the forms of play that it commonly enjoys but will make a big splurge of them all in one day.

"The advantages and benefits from the program will be on the intangible side. No material wealth will be added to the town and no one will gain in that direction aside from the prizes to be awarded the winners. On the other hand, we shall have the spiritual benefits from relaxation in play, relaxation in a period when the strains of life are greater than ever. In bundling all these events up into a single day we make it a day in observance of all the little ways in which we retain pleasure in living even in the midst of sacrifice."

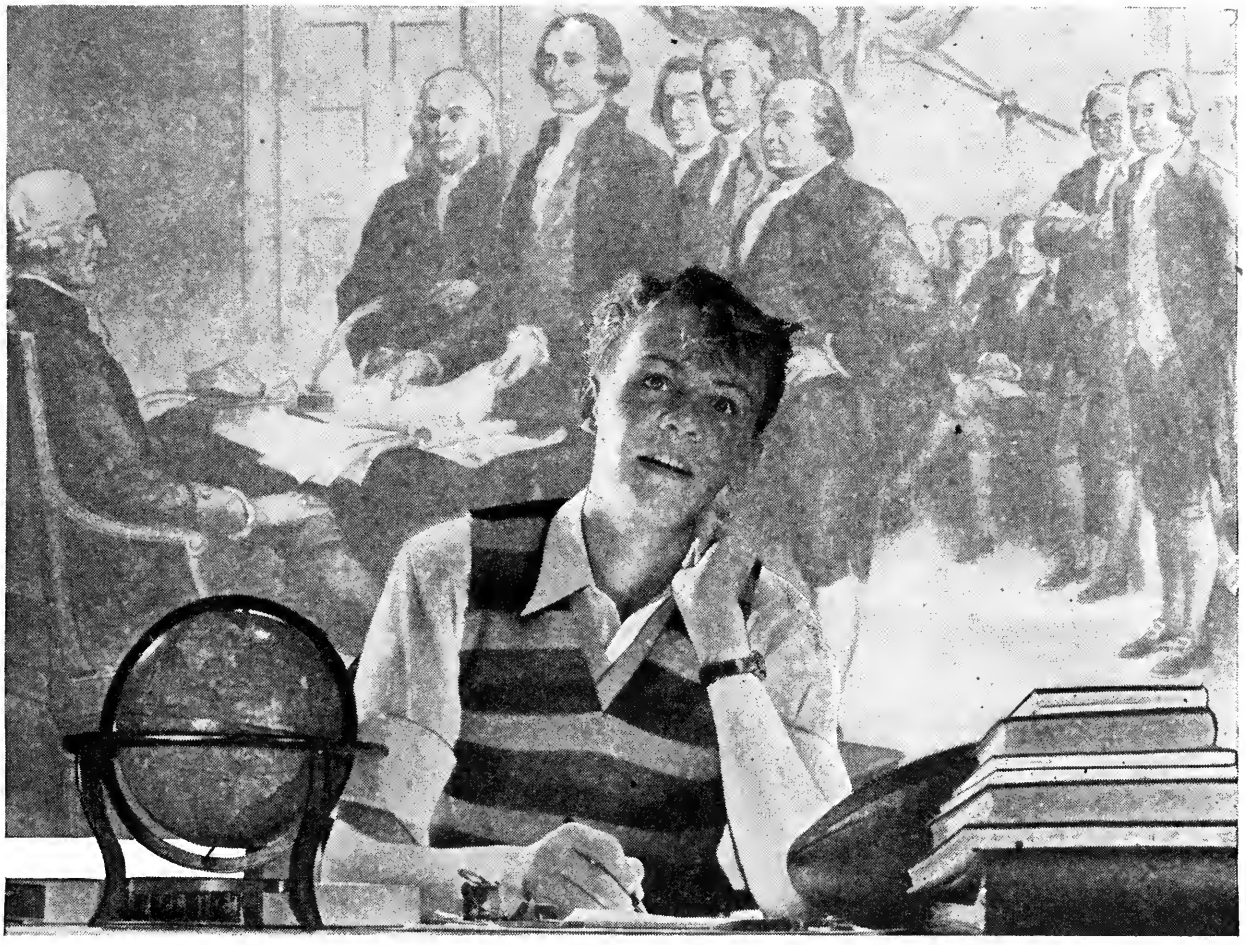
Degree to Dorothy Enderis

DOROTHY C. ENDERIS, head of the municipal recreation system of Milwaukee, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Recreation Service by Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin, at its commencement May 22nd.

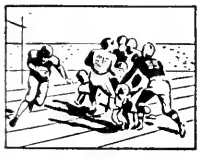
As far as the leaders in the National Recreation Association know, this is the first time that the degree of Doctor of Recreation Service has ever been conferred by an American institution of higher learning.

The announcement reads: "Under Dorothy Enderis's wise and far-sighted leadership Milwaukee has developed a municipal recreation program for youths and adults that is known throughout the country for its excellence. Miss Enderis has taken an active part in the life of the community and given liberally of her time, thought and energy to the promotion of the best social and civic interests of the city."

Few leaders in the national recreation movement are better known, not only in this country but abroad, than is Dorothy Enderis. Men and women have come from a long distance to visit the schoolhouse recreation centers of Milwaukee. What is being done in Milwaukee has been repeatedly written up in bulletins and magazines. Dorothy Enderis has had a very active part in the



Initiative—The Foundation of Democracy



When young "Red" Smith, eighth grader at Central School, sits with wrinkled brow, planning tricky plays for his football team, he is exercising his constitutional right to the "pursuit of happiness." His *happiness,* in this particular instance, is trying to beat the daylights out of rival teams. And that is the the basis of our whole democratic competitive system. It's the reason that *no record,* in any branch of our economic life, is safe in this country. No *industrial* record. No *scientific* record. No *engineering* record. No *farm production* record. No *war* record.

Our kind of democracy gives us the privilege of initiative. In America we are free to go ahead and *do* things—free to compete for leadership in any walk of life.

We are taught to believe that nothing is so good that it can't be done or made better. And that same initiative—that competitive spirit of free men—that everlasting urge to make the best *better,* bred in the hearts of millions of Americans, has made the U. S. the greatest nation on the face of the earth, in peace and in WAR.

The youth of America learns initiative early on our fields of sports. Out there, where "the best man wins," they develop the *will-to-win,* the *never-say-die spirit,* that makes them fight till the last man is out — till the final gun of the last quarter—the last bell of the last round —the last shot of the last long set—the last stride of the last lap.

Our competitive sports burn this initiative into our boys. While they develop fine, strong bodies, and agilities and skills in the use of those bodies, they also develop priceless qualities of self-confidence and determination — and a deep-seated love for the ways of American democracy.

It is this love of independence—this freedom to compete on even terms for any prize worthwhile, developed in our youth by our competitive sports, that is the greatest safeguard of our democratic ways, in this age of sinister change.

Carried into manhood it will give us a mighty bulwark against any invasion of the sacred tenets of the American way of life—whether from without or from within.

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work of the National Recreation Association. Her many friends throughout the world will congratulate her on this well-deserved honor.

Joseph Lee Day, July 28, 1944

(Continued from page 141)

corps exhibitions, baton twirling, tumbling, flag drills, and musical numbers.

Houston, Texas. A city-wide Play Day at Hermann Park was held in honor of Joseph Lee. Pony rides, toy airplanes and racing automobiles were special events. Seesaws, swings, slides and stunt bars were crowded. The climax was a tour through the zoo.

Pantomime Is Easy

(Continued from page 138)

nated a series which they used as program material under the title "Silent Movies." One of these is given here in detail.

Her First Date

The scene is her room. A table represents a dressing table, a chair its stool. Four chairs are arranged to suggest a bed.

In one wall we imagine a window, in another a door, in another a closet which, when opened, reveals a long mirror on the inside of the door.

BETTY is putting on her nail polish. She finishes it—carefully opens a drawer to take out a lipstick gingerly so as not to disturb the polish — applies it — and then powders her nose. At this moment her mother enters. Betty gets up and goes to her mother for inspection. Her mother tells her she must remove some of the lipstick. Betty pouts, but goes to dressing table, opens drawer, fishes for Kleenex, and bites on it. The door bell rings and she rushes to the window, sees a florist's car, then hurries to the door of the balcony. Her mother, who has gone downstairs, comes back with a corsage box. Betty takes it to the dressing table, pulls off the string, removes the lid, finds the card—"It's from him!"—opens the protecting paper and picks up the corsage. She tries it in her hair, bending to look in the mirror. The she crosses to the bed and lays the flowers on the dress, removes the flowers, placing them lovingly on the pillow. She picks up her long dress, hands it to her mother, who holds it over her head. Betty stoops to get under it, straightens up, arms outstretched above her head, and wriggles into the dress. She turns so that her mother may fasten it. Then she picks up the flowers, extracts the pin, hands both to her mother, who pins them in place. Betty goes to the long mirror to admire her costume.

A bell rings. This time it is the telephone, but Betty runs to the window. There is no car waiting. "Oh dear—something's happened!" The door opens, she looks, sees her mother — whose face she reads — "Bill cannot go to the dance after all!" She gives a cry of disappointment and throws herself on the bed weeping.

Our Women of the Future!

UNDER THIS TITLE the Girls' League Association of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, announced its program. The Association, which since 1911 has offered all girls of Pittsfield an educational, social and recreational program, serves the following groups:

Bluebirds (3 to 5 years)—Handwork, storytelling, singing games—rhythms, free play in nursery room

Tiny Tots (6 and 7 years)—Simple crafts, play at housekeeping—singing games, simple folk dances

Junior Elementary (8 and 9 years) — Games, posture work, beginner's gymnastics, tap and folk dancing, crafts, sewing, cooking, dramatics, swimming

Senior Elementary (10 and 11 years) — Games, posture work, intermediate gymnastics, tap and folk dancing, stunts, handcraft, cooking, sewing, dramatics, swimming

Junior High (11 to 13 years) — Tennis, archery, badminton, square dancing, gymnastics, self-testing, baseball, volley ball games, swimming, supper clubs, sewing, cooking, advanced crafts

High School (14 to 18 years)—Physical education, home economics, social dancing, special activities, dramatics, leader training groups

Among other activities are hikes, parties, holiday and special day celebrations, sleigh rides, skating parties, a circus, Camp Fire Girls' organization with complete program of activities, and day camping.

A statement received in October 1943 from Miss Edith DeBonis, executive director of the Girls' League Association, reports a registration of 520 ninth grade boys in the social dancing classes. From 400 to 700 high school boys and girls were expected to attend the first high school dance held in October. (See page 114 for picture.)

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Over 1,000 instructive, entertaining and educational FILMS

"Land of Liberty"—a patriotic "must" for your programs!
8 reels—**$7.50**

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In these "Pantomime Plays for One," the one character must suggest to the audience very clearly who the other characters in the play are. In the one given, Betty's actions must make it clear to the audience it is her mother who comes in to inspect and to help her dress. Moreover, the audience hears no bell, except through Betty's ears.

The teacher or director who has worked with pantomime in the fashion suggested will find it easy to develop a pantomime play, and her efforts will be rewarded in the development of originality, and self-expression in each member of the group.

The Sports Program at Falk Corporation

(Continued from page 148)

A particularly interesting soccer game which attracted state-wide attention was that played with the Royal Air Force team of Dayton, Ohio, in which the Falks came off victors.

Bowling is another popular sport at Falk. More than six hundred bowlers play every day in shop leagues, with the two top teams competing with high ranking local teams.

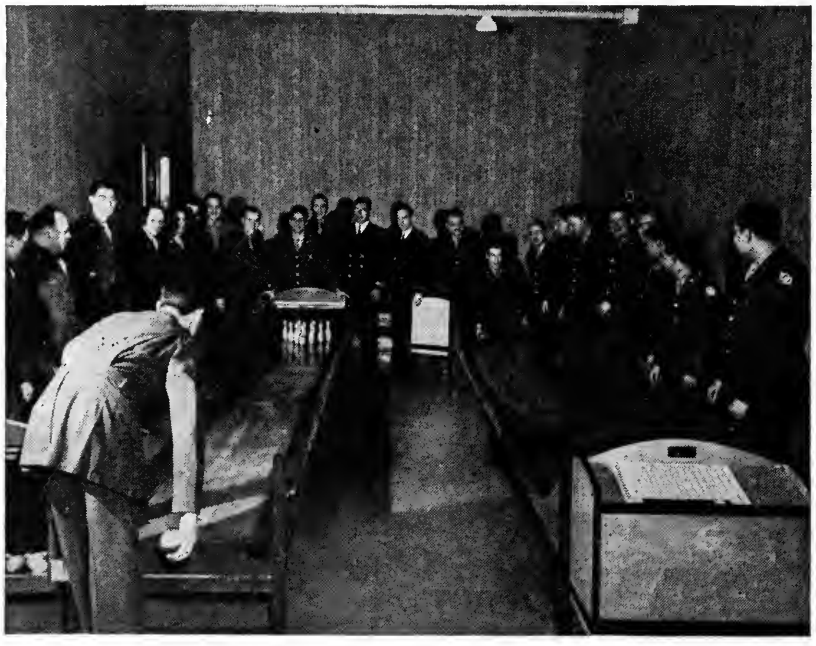
In addition to their participation in intershop and plant tournaments, tennis and golf players at the plant compete in industrial leagues against teams in other plants. This is true, too, of the Rifle Club. Organized originally as a hobby by a group interested in shooting, the Rifle Club has had a rapid growth, and meets weekly. A few years ago some members of this club proposed the formation of an industrial league to approach other plants with the idea. As a result, a league was formed which has been in operation for two years.

Some of the Values of a Sports Program

The cost of athletic equipment is small in comparison with the results secured. Equipment can be used for years if properly cared for. Proper equipment and organization are, however, necessary if maximum enjoyment is to be derived from an activity.

The bugaboo of inadequate facilities can be easily overcome. Companies or labor-management committees can readily gain the cooperation of municipal recreation associations and secure the use of their facilities. Such associations will often assist in organizing leagues.

Participation in an activity should be voluntary.



ACTUAL PHOTO OF TWO-WAY BOWLING ALLEYS IN USE AT GRAND CENTRAL PALACE, NEW YORK CITY, THE LARGEST INDUCTION CENTER IN THE WORLD!

Two-Way Bowling Alleys are now in use all over the United States and on many war fronts, by the Army, Navy, Marines, Merchant Marine, Coast Guard, WACS, U.S.O. Clubs, "Y's," and Recreation Centers.

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Gentlemen: We are interested in your new Two-Way Bowling Alley. Please send us additional information and literature describing alley.

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City ..... *State* .....

Employees cannot be forced to play. Once a few become interested, however, others will join in.

Start slowly with the less complicated activities until natural leaders stand out among your employees. Let the employees themselves run the activities as far as possible, with coaches or managers coming from the employee group.

The use of a plant publication and bulletin boards will increase interest in activities.

Keep all employees informed of schedules of games. Nonparticipants derive much enjoyment from watching employees. A feeling of pride in their teams is developed among spectators which carries over into the shop with good effects.

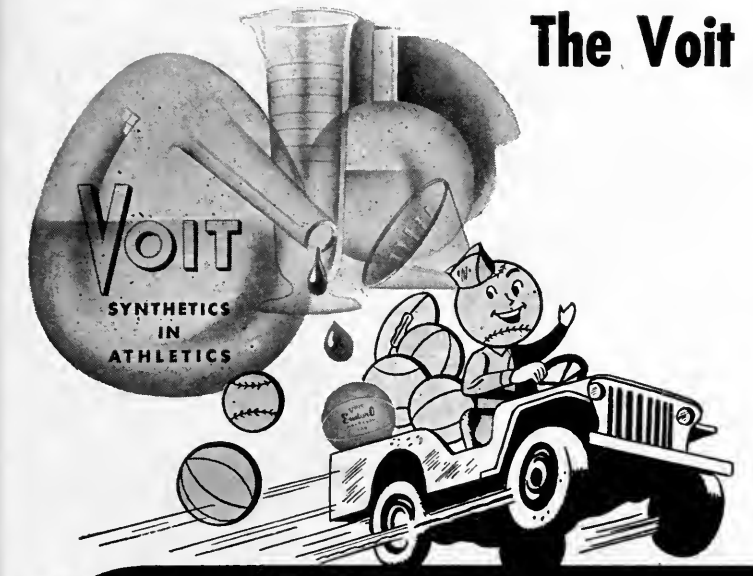
A physical fitness program in industry is of primary importance. Emphasis on physical fitness for employees will help prevent some of the disabilities revealed at army induction centers.

When industries everywhere unite to develop well-planned recreation programs we can look forward to a healthier and happier America — an America improved manifold, physically and mentally.

Burbank Makes Full Use of Its Parks

(Continued from page 122)

the development of new ideas. One of the local automobile top shops provided leatherette from their scrap box to make purses, suspenders, book covers and lapel gadgets. Whole sets of patio plates were made with ordinary paper plates decorated with gay designs in crayola, then shellacked for permanence. Twisted crepe paper covered all types of bottles and jars to make interesting and useful ornaments, and two gallon ice cream cartons were transformed into attractive waste baskets. Raffia and string were used in all sorts of ways,



The Voit Ball of Tomorrow

is worth waiting for!

Today Voit's complete output of super Synthetic-Rubber-Covered Athletic Equipment is going to our far-flung fighting fronts—to help maintain morale among Uncle Sam's boys! Early in the fall, we expect to fill essential civilian needs. Remember, the Voit Ball of Tomorrow's worth waiting for!

Write for Illustrated Price List.

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and with soap still available, young sculptors turned out some interesting figures.

A poster contest was held for which the activities of the parks served as subjects. The quality of workmanship was amazing. Scrapbooks covering all kinds of subjects, and nature books made of leaf blue prints provided a wide range of interest.

"Good citizenship" in the home park was rewarded with a rare treat—an all-day hayride to the mountain park culminating in a watermelon feast. A point system was employed, and all the boys and girls were asked to earn their hayrides; thus regular participation in the summer program was encouraged.

The final event of the summer was the field day in which all parks participated, with ribbons awarded for the handcraft display as well as the usual field events. A "wading pool parade" started this great day, with the very little tots, in costumes, either riding or wheeling gaily decorated vehicles — scooters, tricycles and wagons, with more ribbons being awarded to the winners. A "nose bag" lunch was enjoyed at noon, followed by dramatic skits from each park. The park winning the most points in the several events had the honor of having its name placed on a handsome plaque which will hang in the Recreation Center, with a new name to be added each year.

Lifting of the dimout on the Coast will make an enlarged program possible in 1944, and a Victory Vegetable Show for the entire community will be the opening event. The playgrounds will run on the same schedule as before with a number of new features added. A neighborhood night will be held in each park the first week so that the whole family may know of the pleasure offered in their own backyard. A concert by the Municipal Band will be a feature of these get-acquainted parties, supplemented by colorful dance numbers by boys and girls who have been a part of the winter dancing classes of the Parks and Recreation Department.

All the parks will have a special feature each month to include all members of the family, so that the adults will become active participants in the summer activity. A circus and carnival will be held, the young people planning and carrying out their own ideas of wild animals (a pet show), tumbling, clowns, and perhaps a doll show. A model airplane building contest, most successful last year, will be repeated, as will the hayride and

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GENE AUTRY
MUSICAL WESTERNS

watermelon feast. Music of all types will play a greater part than ever before.

The entire program has as its objective the provision of interesting recreation for war-weary citizens of all ages who must, because of gasoline restrictions, find wholesome fun within walking distance of home.

Youth Out of Doors

(Continued from page 134)

one-act plays can be produced in any neighborhood. This would be an excellent project for a really ambitious teen age dramatic club, which includes some boys who are interested in carpentry, stage craft and lighting, and a capable leader, who can attach the moving van to her car and go night after night to a different neighborhood with her Teen Town Troupe.

Swimming Pool Fun. Finally, one of the most interesting spots for sports, for socials and for service is the swimming pool or beach. This is where you'll find the teen age any hot afternoon if they are not working. Why not use them as well as amuse them—or rather—why not help them to help themselves and others to a good time?

First of all, there is the instruction period for those who cannot swim or dive well. Besides using the skilled youth as class assistants, why not have a buddy swim campaign, wherein each one who knows how to swim teaches or coaches one who does not. Teen-agers can also help monitor the pool at practice periods and for free swim hours, and help organize *safe* games in the water or near by, even if they have not qualified for the Junior Life Saving Corps. The members of this organization can give really marvelous life saving service under a strong director. If he is wise, he'll see that this Corps also has many good times, picnics, trips, maybe friendly contests with similar groups in other pools.

Weekly Hollywood Party. This same Life Saving Corps, or Junior Council, with little ingenuity can make the swimming pool the site of a weekly Hollywood pool party. Tables and chairs, colored lights, a juke box and a snack bar, plus some novelty swimming and diving and a good game of follow-the-leader by those who are swimming, adds to everyone's fun. An elaboration of this idea becomes a Family Fun Night at the pool, with the teen-agers proudly putting on the numbers for parents and others seated in the bleachers. Formation swimming, good diving, and nonsense in and out of the pool make up most of the program, combined with community sings, life saving demonstrations or contests, and even movies, for variety.

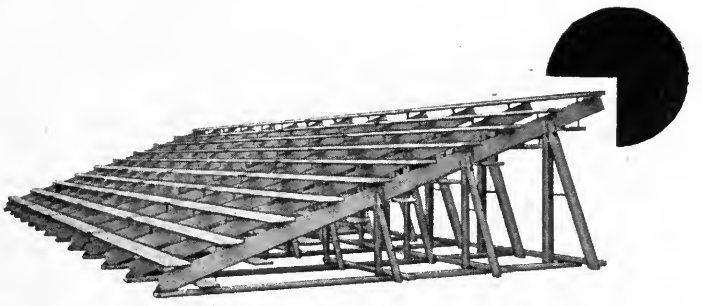
Since the pool is where you'll find the teen age in the summer, why not urge them to bring their parents there, and grandparents as well, so that all may have a joyous good time.

Leadership

The Leader. Teen age activities require youthful, enthusiastic leadership of the most indirect kind. Young people will not be bossed, will not follow a dictator, but they soon come to realize they need an older person's help. The leader should be able to make suggestions so cleverly that the boys and girls believe these are their own original ideas; to draw out the abilities of the

PLAYTIME IS COMING

Before the war is over and playtime comes again, you will want to do some constructive planning toward making the recreation centers of your community a worthwhile project.



Above: a sixty foot group, 10 tier extended type bleacher with a seating capacity of 440.

Bleachers are a major item. Universal Bleachers are designed to give maximum comfort to your spectators, with minimum space loss and preparation time requirement. Universal Wood Portables are economical because the investment is small per person seated, and because they are adaptable for different sports—soccer, football, baseball, etc. They're safe because the greater the load, the more rigid the stand. They're durable because they have no intricate parts, no castings. All stress and strain are anticipated by the design, the lumber selected, and the workmanship.

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most shy; to stay in the background, pushing the junior leaders forward, yet never having favorites; to smooth over ruffled feelings, iron out difficulties and sometimes even "lay down the law" — but always with a twinkle in the eye.

In addition to all these, the out-of-door leader needs to be physically active, able to hike, ride a bicycle, enter into folk and square dances with gusto, enjoy swimming and horseback riding, and be a ranking "dub" in many sports and an expert in one or two. Add to these abilities judgment, initiative, good sportsmanship, fair play, a sense of humor, tremendous vitality, and a love of the work which money cannot buy, and you have a youth leader par excellence—if you can find one!

Without superior leadership, out-of-door youth activities can become a liability. Since young people do not want chaperones these days, much responsibility falls on the leader, who usually tries to introduce as "helpers" the parents or other adults who serve as snack bar workers, transportation aids, equipment carriers, life guards, sports coaches and the like. While diligently carrying out their duties they keep an eye on stragglers and twosomes. Without this unobstrusive chaperonage, many outing and nighttime activities are not advisable.

Senior Council. In all activities Youth Councils or committees of the older teen-agers should be organized to conduct the activities, in so far as they can, guided by their mature leader, and possibly aided by a Senior Council, Parents' Association, Neighborhood Club or other adult organization which paves the way, secures permissions and facilities, underwrites financial obligations, supervises safety measures, and *stays in the backyard.* Without adult sponsorship many activities will not be successful, safe, or beneficial.

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(Plans for three buildings, with descriptions of the various features)

* Taken from **Community Recreation Buildings as War Memorials**

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

315 Fourth Avenue New York 10, N. Y.

First Aid for Depleted Supervisory Staffs!

(Continued from page 147)

should be made to the supervisor, or through the supervisor to the superintendent.

Directing the work of the division directors and supervising the playgrounds is the responsibility of the supervisory staff of the Recreation Department —the superintendent and the supervisors of recreation. Periodic meetings of the division directors are held with the supervisory staff to clear problems, lay plans and disseminate information and operational instructions. Minutes of these meetings are taken and copies given to the directors and supervisors.

(Continued on page 163)

Clyde Doyle

CLYDE DOYLE, attorney at law, Long Beach, California, has resigned as president of the city's Recreation Commission, a position which he has held since its creation fifteen years ago. John A. Paap, a member of the Commission since August 1943, will serve as Mr. Doyle's successor. Mr. Paap, a practicing attorney in Long Beach for ten years, is well known for his work in many local civic organizations. He has been particularly active in plans for the development of the Long Beach airport.

On the occasion of Mr. Doyle's retirement the City Council passed the following resolution:

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Long Beach, that the City Council wishes to take this means of joining with the citizenry of Long Beach, as a whole, and in this manner honors Mr. Doyle for the splendid services he has so untiringly and unselfishly rendered to the city in pioneering, establishing, and directing the recreational program and activities of this city; that in addition to his duties as Chairman of the Recreation Commission, both before and after its creation, Mr. Doyle has been extremely active in all of those fields directed to

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LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BATS

the civic betterment of the community, with particular emphasis on the youth of our city."

Since 1929 Mr. Doyle has been an honorary member of the National Recreation Association.

Clyde Doyle and men and women like him have had a large part through the years in building the national recreation movement.

First Aid for Depleted Staffs!

(Continued from page 162)

The administrative value of this plan as an operational tool in times of reduced supervisory staff and rapid turnover of playground directors is apparent. There is another value, too, which has important implications for this Department and the professional field of recreation work. It gives experience on a wider level to playground directors interested in going into recreation as a profession but who are not yet ready for positions on a supervisory level. It is a stimulation to the serious director to realize that there are opportunities in the field, upon a full-time level, immediately ahead.

The division director system evolved out of a very real need to make judicious use of all the experience in operating playgrounds that was available. In a public recreation system composed of forty-eight school playgrounds, thirteen municipal playgrounds, four community centers, and facilities for golf, tennis, swimming, baseball, softball, camping and boating, together with six housing units needing recreational leadership, the division director system has been of definite value and it is to be recommended to other municipalities facing the same problems as Oakland.

"The Folk Dancer"

A Magazine for Teachers, Recreation Leaders Folk Dancers, Research Workers, etc.

Contains music and dance instructions for dances of many lands, program material, book and record reviews, material on folk costumes, customs, history, illustrations, pictures.

Published monthly by the Community Folk Dance Center directed by Michael Herman.

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Richard Lieber

RICHARD LIEBER of Indianapolis, Indiana, chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Conference on State Parks, and vice-president of the American Planning and Civic Association, died at McCormack's Creek State Park in Indiana, April 15, 1944, at the age of seventy-four.

The Indiana State Park system which was largely planned and developed between 1915 and 1933, when he served as the state director of conservation, is in part a fitting memorial to Mr. Lieber's vision and desire to perpetuate the riches of nature for his fellow men. He will be long remembered as an example of what a public servant should be in devotion to duty, principles, and in scrupulous honesty. His influence in the state park movement has had its effect throughout the entire nation, thus enriching materially the country of his adoption, for which he had real affection.

Junior Nature Leaders Today and Tomorrow

(Continued from page 125)

Scouts, Camp Fire Girls and other youth organizations have been allowed to "sit in" on the course. Some adults who were interested in improving their appreciation of the outdoors have also attended. Subsequently a number of these adults have made valuable contributions in nature leadership in their communities. This suggests some possible value in extending this sort of program to the adult field.

Why Have Training Courses?

Why, it may be asked, is the National Capital Parks interested in junior nature leadership courses? The thousands of school children involved constitute an important element among the patrons of the local park areas. If their appreciation of park values can be stimulated through a keener understanding of natural history, not only will their lives and the lives of other members of their family be enriched, but it is also hoped that they will be encouraged to greater enjoyment and better use of these areas. This should logically result in a more personal sense of stewardship for the parks with an increasing restraint on vandalism—a number one problem in many parks. It will also tend to minimize the current problem of juvenile delinquency.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Beach and Pool, March 1944
- The Seashore Comes to the City, Henry D. Schubert
- Start Reconditioning Now, Part 2, Wesley Bintz
- Teaching the Adult Non-Swimmer, Part 2, Robert Royer

Camping, April 1944
- Camp Reading for Boys and Girls, Margaret M. Clark
- More Purposeful Camp Aquatic Programs, Carroll L. Bryant
- Needed: More Camps for Children, Katherine F. Lenroot
- A Reading List for (Camp) Counselors, Barbara E. Joy

Hygeia, May 1944
- Walking for Health, George Weinstein

The Journal of Health and Physical Education, April 1944
- Camp Management and Its Implications, Robert Rubin
- Rope Jumping, Theresa Anderson
- They Go to School on Saturday, Howard G. Danford

Junior League Magazine, May 1944
- On the Washington Front, Eleanor Hard Lake
- Help for the Handicapped, Jayne Hutton Mason
- Small Project — Big Rewards, Cynthia Goodhart Dietz

New Jersey Municipalities, April 1944
- Juvenile Problems, Police Chief Fred A. Roff, Morristown, N. J.

Parks and Recreation, March-April 1944
- Grand Forks (N. D.) Victory Garden Corps, Mrs. M. B. Kannowski
- Tree Management in Recreation Areas, A. Robert Thompson

The Physical Educator, April 1944
- Alphabetized and Graded List of Games for Elementary Boys and Girls, Karl W. Bookwalter and Edna F. Monro

Survey Midmonthly, April 1944
- Entertaining Sick Soldiers, Walter F. Grueninger
- Planning for Youth, Neva R. Deardorff

Youth Leaders Digest, March 1944
- Let Youth Speak, Philip L. Seman
- A Psychiatrist Looks at the Zoot Suit, Ralph S. Banay, M. D.

PAMPHLETS

Day Camping—A Wartime Asset
Division of Recreation, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

Directory of Park and Recreation Activities
Hartford Park Department, 550 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Famous Slugger Year Book 1944
Hillerich and Bradsby Company, Louisville, Kentucky

Food Fights for Freedom
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Hiking Adventures
Division of Recreation, Department of Public Parks and Recreation, Louisville, Kentucky

How to Set Up a Summer Recreation Program
Office of Community War Services, Division of Recreation, Washington, D. C.

Juvenile Court Statistics, 1943, Preliminary Statement
Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

A Physical Fitness Demonstration for Independence Day
Committee on Physical Fitness, Washington 25, D. C.

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It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 151)

12 pp. Single copies without charge. Quantities 5 cents per copy postpaid. Veneer Association 616 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

"Weather, Knowing the," by T. Morris Longstreth. $1.69. Macmillan Company, New York.

"Weather Knowledge, The How and Why of," by F. W. Reichelderfer. 153 pp. Illustrated. Free. Weather Bureau, Department of Commerca.

Teen Age Centers— A Bird's-Eye View

LARGE CITIES and small communities throughout America are giving special attention to youth recreation programs. Youth centers are springing up everywhere. How are these centers initiated and operated? Who pays the bills? How far do the young people themselves have a voice in the planning and management?

The National Recreation Association has received information about approximately a hundred of these centers, and has attempted, in a pamphlet entitled *Teen Age Centers — a Bird's-Eye View,* to summarize what has been done in different cities, and to make some suggestions as to the organization and operation of youth centers on the basis of the experiences reported.

Price 10 cents

National Recreation Association

315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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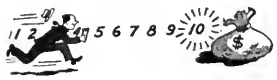

three you put up. Pretty nice.

The first job of the money you put into "E" is, of course, to help finance the war. But it also gives you a wonderful way to save money.

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There'll come a day when you'll bless these Bonds—when they may help you over a tough spot.

That's why you should hang on to every Bond you buy. You can, of course, cash in your Bonds any time after you've held them for 60 days. You get all your money back, and, after one year, all your money plus interest.

But when you cash in a Bond, you end its life before its full job is done. You don't give it its chance to help you and the country in the years that lie ahead. You kill off its $4-for-every-$3 earning power.

All of which it's good to remember when you

might be tempted to cash in some of your War Bonds. They are yours, to do what you want with.

But . . . it's ABC sense that . . .

They'll do the best job for you and for America if you let them reach the full flower of maturity!

WAR BONDS to Have and to Hold

The Treasury Department acknowledges with appreciation the publication of this message by

RECREATION

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Books, Children and Men

By Paul Hazard. Translated by Marguerite Mitchell. The Horn Book, Inc., Boston. $3.00.

WRITTEN BY A MEMBER of the French Academy, this book presents a comprehensive analysis of the distinctive national traits of children's literature. In it Professor Hazard writes of countries which he has visited and of whose literature he has first-hand knowledge. It is a delightful volume for all interested in books and in children.

Institutions Serving Children

By Howard W. Hopkirk. Russell Sage Foundation, New York. $2.00.

MR. HOPKIRK'S experience as director of recreation, cottage father and as superintendent of an institution for dependent children, together with his sympathetic and practical treatment of the subject, has made this book a very significant contribution to a field which suffers from a lack of published material. The book is divided into four sections, all of which have been developed in some detail—Part One, "Place of the Institutions"; Part Two, "The Staff"; Part Three, "Structure: Organizational and Physical"; and Part Four, "Care of the Child." Throughout Mr. Hopkirk emphasizes the importance of play. In his chapter on "Education and Training of the Child" recreation holds an important place.

25 Non-Royalty Holiday Plays

Compiled by M. Jagendorf. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. $2.50.

IN THIS BOOK will be found a collection of plays designed to give boys and girls dramatic material to commemorate great events at home, in school, club, camp, or theater. There are plays for practically all the holidays, for Mother's Day, graduation, Book Week, Red Cross Week, and a new holiday—a holiday just for fun!

Heel and Toe or a Do-Si-Do

Compiled by Grace H. Johnstone. $.75.

IN THIS BOOKLET Miss Johnstone has given us a collection of recreation mixers, squares and folk dances, which recreation workers will be glad to have. Complete musical score and full description of thirty-three recreational dances are given. The catalogue numbers of victrola records available for the dances are listed, and there are a glossary of square dance terms and a supplementary reference list. The booklet is available through the National Equipment Service, Girl Scouts, Inc., 155 East 44th Street, New York City, or through Miss Johnstone at 1341 Josephine Street, Berkeley 3, California.

Ship Model Building

By Gene Johnson. Cornell Maritime Press, New York. $2.50.

HERE IS A BOOK which has been written and illustrated for the novice. In simple text and more than 750 illustrations and photographs, the author has detailed all the processes involved in model building on an inexpensive basis. There are suggestions for homemade tools and devices, improvised substitutes that challenge gradually developing craftsmanship.

Living with Music

By David Barnett. George W. Stewart, Publisher, Inc., New York 18. $1.50.

THIS HELPFUL LITTLE BOOK is based on the theory that the ability to produce music is as native to everyone as the ability to speak. It insists that music is not for a few but for everyone, and that musical compositions and vocal and instrumental performances should be taught to all for personal satisfaction.

Fitting the Back Yard Playground

Popular Mechanics Press, 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago. $.25.

THE DIRECTIONS are given in this pamphlet for a variety of playground equipment—two playhouses, a ferris wheel, roller coaster, treadmill, play store, slide, and two merry-go-rounds.

This publication is only one of a series of almost a hundred booklets comprising "The Little Library of Useful Information" issued by the Popular Mechanics Press.

The American Singer

Book Two. Compiled by John W. Beattie, Josephine Wolverton, Grace V. Wilson, and Howard Hinga. American Book Company, New York. $.96.

THERE ARE ABOUT 150 SONGS and singing games for children in this collection, which is addressed to the children themselves and contains a number of songs composed by boys and girls.

Penland Pottery Handbook

Penland School of Handicrafts, Penland, North Carolina. $1.00.

THIS HANDBOOK, in mimeographed form, gives interesting information regarding the historical development of pottery as well as directions for making articles. It is one of a series on crafts of various kinds issued in bulletin form. Information regarding the bulletins and the cost of securing them may be obtained from Gertrude D. Ross, Penland, North Carolina.

Organizing to Help the Handicapped.

A Brief Guide for Voluntary Association for the Crippled. By T. Arthur Turner. National Society for Crippled Children, Inc., Elyria, Ohio. Cloth, $1.00; paper, $.50.

Of special interest to recreation workers are the chapters on special projects for the sheltered and homebound, and summer camps. Other chapters deal with Federal-state programs for crippled children, the employment of the handicapped, community health and the prevention of handicaps, legislation, and similar subjects.

"Together We Sing."

Compiled by Louise Grant. Music arranged by Cecily Lambert. The Boston Music Company, Boston, Massachusetts. $.75.

There are twelve choruses for mixed voices in this book which have come from friendly neighbors all over the world. Latin America, the South Pacific area, and Europe are all represented in this collection which also contains a program, "The Fiesta," which utilizes all the songs in a dramatic way.

Campfire and Trail.

By Edgar L. Hewett. The University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. $2.00.

For forty years Dr. Hewett, archaeologist, museum builder and teacher, has followed ancient trails and highways by whatever means of locomotion were available. On his travels he has met with many stirring adventures and interesting experiences. By a thousand and one campfires he has jotted down philosophic reflections in his diary, and from these voluminous notes he has given us twenty-three brief chapters.

It's Fun to Draw.

Edited by Alan D. Bogorad. Knickerbocker Publishing Company, 120 Greenwich Street, New York 6. $1.00.

In bringing together this material, compiled by a number of different artists, Mr. Bogorad has presented in one concise, inexpensive volume a great deal of practical information not usually included in the art school curriculum. The various chapters cover cartooning, lettering, elements of advertising art, color in art, drawing illustrations, and similar subjects. One chapter is devoted to "Fun in Art" and includes a number of games for children and adults.

Negro Youth in City YMCAs.

National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17. $1.00.

The availability and use of city Y.M.C.A. services among Negro youth is the main theme of this report of a special committee appointed to study this situation. Although its chief value is for local city Y.M.C.A.'s there are several sections on general community conditions of interest to community recreation workers and others interested in Negro needs and services. One chapter is devoted to factors unfavorable to good community relationships between white and Negro groups and another to favorable factors. The lack of adequate recreation facilities is reported as having a definite affect on the attitude of Negroes toward the community. Community centers are favorably mentioned as contributing to interracial good will.

Camp Memory Books.

Millar Publishing Company, 538 South Wells Street, Chicago 7, Illinois. In quantities of 25, each $.25.

This ingenious publication provides opportunity for the camper to record happenings and events at camp this summer. Space is provided for a camp log, and for pictures and autographs.

Leadership of Girl Scout Troops.

Program Division, Girl Scouts, 155 East 44th Street, New York 17. $.50.

This book, addressed to leaders of Girl Scouts from ten through fourteen, is designed to help make their jobs "interesting and rewarding." It should go far toward accomplishing its objectives, for it is full of interesting suggestions regarding things to do and how to do them. While intended for the use of Girl Scout leaders, recreation workers will profit both from the philosophy of the book and the practical applications of this philosophy which are suggested.

"Bequest of Wings"— A Family's Pleasures with Books.

By Annis Duff. The Viking Press, New York. $2.00.

This is a delightful book about books and about living. In brief, it is an account of how a family lives with its books and how books live with their family.

Popular Mechanics Shop Notes 1944.

Volume Forty. Popular Mechanics Company, 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago. $.50.

This is the fortieth annual collection of outstanding workshop hints and practical ideas of special value and interest to the craftsman, home owner, experimenter, and shop worker. It is a book for every man who uses tools.

Pictorial Guide to Machine Shop Practice.

By H. Grisbrook and C. Phillipson. Emerson Books, Inc., New York. $1.50.

The basic principles of machine shop practice are presented simply and clearly. A series of drawings, illustrating the right and the wrong way of performing an operation, make up the greater part of the book. Although the book consists largely of such illustrations, their captions form a text of concise, easy-to-understand instructions. In addition, there are valuable notes on general workshop procedure, the handling of machine tools, and similar matters.

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The Fourth of July in Invasion Times

THIS JULY 4TH is a rededication time.

We pause to think of all that America has meant to us and to the world. Our forefathers dared to unite the thirteen colonies. Virginia and Massachusetts dared to trust each other.

A considerable section of the North American continent was freed from the danger of anarchy.

Again in 1944 there is danger of anarchy—continued world anarchy.

There is danger of continued attempts to settle differences of opinion by world wars that threaten the destruction of all that is valuable.

Yet we live in a period when we can have a world richly satisfying in all that is beautiful and meaningful, but only if we end this world anarchy—only if world wars are to cease.

The world can be beautiful. Once there was a Golden Age of living in Greece, at the time of Pericles, though it was built on slavery. Today in America there are on the average the equivalent, we are told, of about three hundred electrical and mechanical slaves for each one of us. There can now be a measure of leisure for living without human slavery. Let the machines free us for more living.

All of us may now enjoy what was formerly possible only for kings.

And yet all this possibility may be destroyed if each generation has a world war.

The time has come for another affirmation of faith in ourselves and the world in which we live, which will make us worthy of the men of July 4, 1776.

There is a road up from barbarism.

In our world community we all are not helpless. We all can provide community force against war.

Are we men and women and children of the 1944 recreation centers courageous enough to stand up and be counted as being ready to do our part in ending world anarchy?

HOWARD BRAUCHER

July

Courtesy Planning and Civic Comment

Let's Go Fishin'

By HERBERT HOOVER

Mr. Hoover's delightful article made its first appearance in the April 22nd issue of *Collier's*. It is reprinted in RECREATION through the courtesy of Mr. Hoover and of the publishers.

RECENTLY I made some suggestions for an economic and social tidying-up of our country in preparation for the return of our boys from overseas. As I wrote, I was depressed by the thousand mournful voices chanting daily of "postwar problems" in such powerful terms as recovery, reconstruction and regeneration.

But in their research efforts in speech and their labors in type, they all concern themselves solely with what we are to do while we are on their promised jobs. Civilization, however, is not going to depend so much on what we do when we are on the job, as what we do in our time off. The moral and spiritual forces do not lose ground while we are pushing "the instrumentalities of production and distribution." Their battle is in our leisure time.

When the guns cease firing, and the gas comes on again, some of us are going fishing. We American men and boys (and some women) are born fishermen—twelve million of us. We have proved it in bygone days by the annual licenses we took out from thrifty state governments.

We have had mostly to postpone the fishing beatitudes for the duration. Many of us are busy at the military front. Some of us on the home front could possibly get a day or a week off, but the fishing holes can only be approached by automobile or motorboats, and a stern government refuses to recognize that fish do not flourish near railway depots.

In the meantime, I suspect that Mother Nature is making the fish bigger and more plentiful by way of preparing to celebrate peace, and our paternal government is doing its duty to solve our postwar problems by running the hatcheries full blast, turning out billions of infant fish and trying to decrease infant mortality.

I have discussed this important subject in years past, but some review and extension of those remarks are not out of place in these days when we are groping for postwar regeneration. Nothing can stop these regenerative forces.

Even the Four Horsemen cannot stop them. War, murrain, famine, pestilence, dictators, the rise and fall of empires or republics may defeat the game fisherman temporarily, but he rises again to invade the streams and the sea. More people have gone in for fishing over more centuries than for any other human recreation.

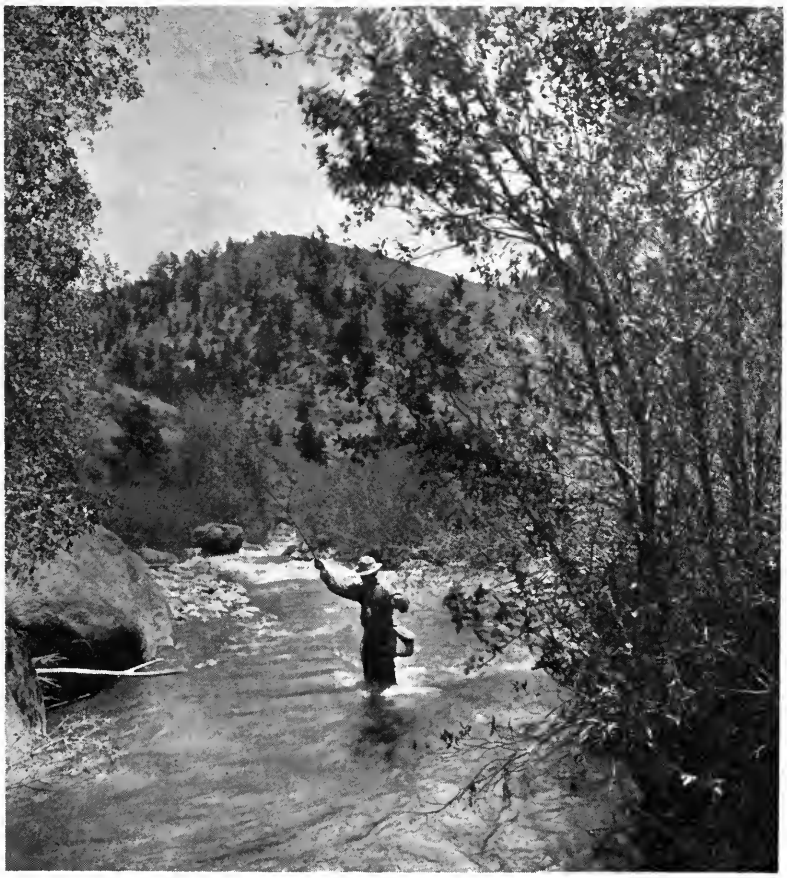

Photo by H. L. Standley, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Sometimes the uninstructed and the people who have bad "isms" scoff at the game fishermen and demand to know how they get that way. It is very, very simple. These re-

generative impulses are physical, spiritual and economic—and they are strong.

The human animal originally came from out-of-doors. When spring begins to move in his bones, he just must get out again. One time, in the spring, our grandmothers used to give us nasty brews from herbs to purify our blood of the winter's corruptions. They knew something was the matter with the boys. They could have saved trouble by giving them a pole, a string and a hook. Some wise ones (among them my own) did just that.

The Call of the Open Spaces

Moreover, as civilization, cement pavements, office buildings, radios have overwhelmed us, the need for regeneration has increased, and the impulses are even stronger. When all the routines and details and the human bores get on our nerves, we just yearn to go away from here to somewhere else. To go fishing is a sound, a valid and an accepted reason for such an escape.

It is the chance to wash one's soul with pure air, with the rush of the brook, or with the shimmer of the sun on blue water. It brings meekness and inspiration from the decency of nature, charity toward tackle-makers, patience toward fish, a mockery of profits and egos, a quieting of hate, a rejoicing that you do not have to decide a darned thing until next week. And it is discipline in the equality of men—for all men are equal before fish.

Necessarily, fishermen are gregarious. Otherwise, the mighty deeds of the day or of a year ago or of ten years ago would go unsung. No one else will listen to them. Also, they are an optimistic class or they would not be fishermen. Therefore, as two or three are gathered together, the spiritual vitamins of faith, hope and charity have constant regeneration. And we need all that in these years of creaking civilization, and especially in the coming years of postwar tribulation.

Nor does this source of spiritual vitamins require any governmental bureau to administer it. All that is required of Congress is to restore our freedom from the fellows who restrict the use of gasoline, and the rugged individualism of the fisherman will do the rest.

His joys are not all confined to the hours near the water. I asserted years ago that one of the elements in the advance of civilization was the progress in the equipment to overcome the mysteries of fish. We have moved upward and onward from the primitive willow pole with a butcher-string line and hooks (ten for a dime) whose compelling lure was one segment of a worm and whose incantation was spitting on the bait. We have arrived at labor-saving devices and increased efficiency in tackle assembled from the bamboo of Burma, the steel of Sweden, the lacquer of China, the tin of Bangkok, the nickel of Madagascar, the silver of Nevada, and the feathers of Brazil—all compounded into mass production at Akron, Ohio.

For magic and incantations, we have moved forward to cosmetics for artificial flies, and wonders in special clothes, and bags with pigeonholes for everything, including mosquito repellents. We no longer call it a "pole," for it is a "rod," and we no longer say that a fish "bites," he now "strikes."

Out of all this progress, a good fisherman can secure many regenerative hours of winter, polishing up the rods and reels, greasing the lines, and discussing the relative merits of gay-colored flies and dead-sure lures — thereby recalling that Big One from the pool just below the rapids and the fly he rose to.

Nor is fishing a rich man's regeneration. That boy with the worm and a grin is always a reminder that men are equal before fish. However, that boy misses out in one particular that I hope to see attended to in our next era of national reform. There is regenerative joy in contemplating and fondling adequate tackle, which he cannot get out of a collection of angleworms. And his joys are more seasonal because he cannot put in the winter nights polishing up that tackle with its reminder of that Big One from that pool and thereby the renewed smell of battles to come.

New Deal for Young Anglers

I acknowledge to a prominent official an idea to reform this. All boys should be guaranteed from birth to manhood a quart of polish and a collection of tackle with an assortment of special flies. There has been sad neglect in this question of assuring artificial flies to the youth of our land, for flies proved their inspiring worth perhaps four hundred years ago—long before Izaak Walton.

When I was a boy and lived at the social level of worms, a true fisherman gave me three flies—a coachman, a gray hackle and a professor. I treasured them greatly and used them successfully for two or three years—until the wings were all worn off. But there were more fish in proportion to the water in those times.

There are some class distinctions among fishermen. The dry-fly devotees hold themselves a bit superior to the wet-fly fishermen; the wet-fly

fishermen, superior to the spinner fishermen; and the spinners, superior to the bait fishermen. I have noticed, however, that toward the end of the day when there were no strikes each social level sometimes descends down the scale until it gets some fish for supper.

This class distinction may perhaps be ignored in the general reformation, for it is not based on the economic levels. The best dry fisherman I have known is a lady cook at a lumber camp in Montana. She scorned the wet-fly fishermen and rose to indignation at bait.

"They call it fishing, those who do not know its spiritual value. On the stream, among true disciples of Izaak Walton, there are no walls of separation. The rich, the poor, the learned, the ignorant, are all cemented in a single bond. That bond is not catching fish, as some imagine. The thing which holds us together is a love for God's out-o'-doors, a hunger for the simple and true, which is found on lake and stream as nowhere else in the world. Verily a little fishing makes all the world a-kin." — *O. Warren Smith* in *Musings of an Angler.*

The swordfish and tarpon fishermen likewise have some social distinctions on the basis of the size of line and reel. The lower-thread line operators are the dukes and earls in that aristocracy. Also, the swordfish and marlin devotees are naturally superior to those who take mere mackerel, amber jacks or flounders. The bonefish fishermen claim a little superiority to the tarpon seekers. But again it is not economic status that counts in such good society so much as knowing what the fish bite.

Someone propounded the question to me: "Why have all Presidents in modern times been fishermen?" It seemed to me a worthy investigation, for the habits of Presidents are likely to influence the nation's youth. Some of us had been fishermen from boyhood and required no explanation. But others only became fishermen after entering the White House. In examining this national phenomenon, I concluded that the pneumatic hammering of demands on the President's mind had increased in frequency with the rising tide of economic and international complexity, and he just had to get away somehow, somewhere, and be alone for a few hours once in a while. But there are only two occasions when Americans respect privacy, especially in Presidents. Those are prayer and fishing. So that some have taken to fishing.

President Cleveland was both a stream and a sea fisherman from youth. His stiff trout rod is still preserved by a devoted fisherman, and it is recorded that his sea-fishing boatman was chosen for silence. Whether President Coolidge fished in his youth is uncertain. He was a good deal of a fundamentalist in economics, government and fishing, so he naturally preferred angleworms. But when the fly fishermen of the nation raised their eyebrows in surprise, he took to artificial flies. However, his backcast was so much a common danger that even the Secret Service men kept at a distance until they were summoned to climb trees to retrieve flies.

But I should return to expanding on postwar regeneration and its moral and spiritual values in a gloomy world. Statistics tell us that the gainfully employed have setadily decreased in hours of work during the whole of thirty years. And in shorter hours and longer week ends and holidays, we have devoted more time to making merry and stirring the caldron of evil. Crime has increased. Yet nobody ever was in jail or plotted a crime when fishing. The increase of crime is among those deprived of those regenerations that impregnate the mind and character of fishermen.

Our standards of material progress include the notion and the hope that we shall still further lessen the daily hours of labor. We also dream of longer annual holidays as scientific discovery and mass production do our production job faster and faster. But when they do the job, they dull the souls of men unless their leisure hours become the period of life's real objective — regeneration by fishing,

The Problems of Leisure

Moreover, while we are steadily organizing increased production of leisure time, the production of what to do with it still lags greatly. We do have some great machinery of joy, some of it destructive, some of it synthetic, much of it mass production. We go to chain theaters and movies. We watch somebody else knock a ball over the fence or kick it over the goal post.

I do that and I believe in it. But these forms of organized joy are sadly lacking in the values which surround the fish. We gain none of the lift of soul coming from a return to the solemnity, the calm and inspiration of primitive nature.

Nor is it the fish that we get that counts, for they can be had in the market for mere silver. It is the break of the waves in the sun, the joyous rush of the brook, the contemplation of the eternal

(Continued on page 222)

Shortages No Waterloo for Waterloo!

By CHASE HAMMOND
Superintendent of Recreation
Waterloo, Iowa

Lights are on again at the old Washington School building in Waterloo, and the inviting neon sign in front reads, "Public Recreation Center"

SO YOU WANT to get your teens and subteens off the streets at night? You want to offer them something constructive after school is out? With shortages of labor and material, with priorities and nonpriorities, you don't know what's to be done?

Are you sure you've given sufficient consideration to that old boarded-up school building in your community?

Here in Waterloo we've had the thrill of seeing an old school building turned into a clean, well-lighted recreation center full of vigorous teenagers enjoying a variety of fun, afternoon and evening. It is a thrill that those of us who have been responsible for such a project find hard to describe. Words are inadequate to express the satisfaction of seeing between 200 and 300 youngsters enjoying life on a typical afternoon and evening.

The Washington Community Center is located just north of the Illinois Central Railroad shops in a community of colored and white residents. It is one of the most recreationally-needy sections of the city, within a block of the home of the world-famous five Sullivan brothers who lost their lives in service to their country.

The Facilities

Upstairs are the offices of the Recreation and Park Commissions, the game room, social room, lounge, coat room, and three hallway game areas. Downstairs will be found the shop for woodworking and electrical instruction, the kitchen and canteen, and the storage rooms.

The game room is the boys' "seventh heaven," even though the girls are beginning to provide some pretty stiff competition. There are two pool tables and two table tennis tables—each with its own low-hung lights. The 32′ x 30′ social room has spotlight "dim-lumination" and a juke box for dancing. Some of the recordings are military bands, and these are the joy of the sub-teens who are well represented during afterschool hours. A two-way bowling game is also located in this room.

Off the social room, through an arched doorway, is the lounge. Besides six card tables with comfortable chrome chairs and quantities of games, there is a piano to strum, a magazine rack for those in a reading mood, and davenports and big comfortable chairs for "just conversation."

The large, old-fashioned one-time school corridors have been put to good use. One has a shuffleboard court painted on its floor, another offers swing bowling and still another has a game of skittles.

The coat room, with checking facilities for 250 persons, is located in a room off the back hallway.

The downstairs shop has proved to be one of the most popular activities in the center. Smaller boys make their own wooden revolvers, tommy guns and PT boats. Bigger boys make everything from ingenious ash stands to furniture. The shop is well equipped with power machinery and hand tools.

The canteen, where hamburgers, hot dogs, milk, potato chips, candy and pop are sold, is also located downstairs. These "eats" go like wildfire and the profits go toward paying for help and leadership.

The community interest evidenced in the whole project is best demonstrated in the canteen. The large restaurant grill was donated by the Iowa Public Service. It is fitted into an impressive unit of sink, cupboards and shelves that makes the women of the neighborhood "oh" and "ah" with admiration. The built-in units are the work of a neighbor and his two sons who plastered, carpentered and painted for many evenings on end as their contribution to the Washington Community Center. Dishes and kettles were provided by the Catholic Daughters of America. This organization raised $150 at a benefit perform-

The Workshop in the Community Center, which Mr. Hammond mentions here, has aroused so much interest and is so important a part of the Center's program that an entire article will be devoted to it in a future issue of RECREATION.

It seemed at first as though nothing could be done with the dilapidated old classrooms

ance which was a novel take-off, over a local radio station, of the nationally famous "Breakfast at Sardi's."

Much of the other equipment throughout the building, as a matter of fact, was donated by interested individuals and club groups. One club took the project of furnishing the magazines, and the reading rack offers an inviting variety of current periodicals—everything from the *National Geographic* and RECREATION to *Popular Mechanics*.

Even while the building was in the process of being refitted for use there was much cooperative effort. Major repairs to the roof, walls, windows, floors and plumbing facilities were made during the early spring last year. By May 1st the office had been painted and the Recreation Commission had moved into its new building and headquarters. From that time on, over the summer months, the maintenance staff received the active help of the teen-agers in the neighborhood. Everyone worked together to put the building in final shape. Older boys helped sand and refinish the floors and paint the walls while girls made drapes for the windows.

Since the opening in November about five months ago, the attendance has totalled over 18,000. The average evening attendance is made up of 210 peppy young people largely of junior high age, and the average attendance after school is ninety-five, with grade schoolers predominating. The recreation center is open on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights from 7 to 9:30; daily after school from 3:30 until 5:15; and on Saturday morning from 9 to 11:30. Due to school and Y.W.C.A. Friday night activities, and the Y.M.C.A. "Saturday Nighters" Club program, the facilities of the community center are made available to church and club groups on these nights.

Wednesday night is "Family Fun Night" with activities for young and old.

The Teen Canteen Club

The Teen Canteen Club, open to boys and girls in the eighth grade and over, was one of the first groups organized, and now includes over 400 members who have paid a membership fee of fifty cents for one year. Club members have elected a governing council made up of five boys and five girls who make rules, discuss discipline, and establish club policy. These youth leaders help four paid adult supervisors keep the program interesting and the rules observed.

Committees plan special social and game events and work closely with the leadership staff. Recently, in spite of numerous basketball attractions, the Teen Canteen Club had one of its most successful parties. The entertainment committee appointed four boys as the refreshment committee. So popular was their hamburger and hot dog stand that since then it has continued to operate

But good planning, ingenuity, hard work, and plenty of paint performed a miracle

two nights a week. This particular party, as do most of the special parties, included a real six piece orchestra.

The adult leaders, paid from budget funds, are assigned to the shop, game room, social room and hallways. The program at the center provides activities for all age groups. Of the 675 registered, the breakdown is as follows: 150 grade school age, 225 junior high school age, 175 high school age, and 125 adults.

Program

	3:30 - 5:15 Afternoon	7:00 - 9:30 Evening
MONDAY	Woodworking in shop; quiet games; game room activities	Sea Scouts; Teen Canteen Club; dancing; games; archery tackle construction—shop work
TUESDAY	Fun with electricity; clay modeling and plaster casting; games	Teen Canteen Club; furniture repair and construction; shop
WEDNESDAY	Woodworking in shop; dancing; reading; games	Family Fun Night
THURSDAY	Electrical experiments; quiet games	Teen Canteen Club; painting and sketching—murals
FRIDAY	Woodworking in shop; dancing; games	Open to club groups by reservation
SATURDAY	Kite construction; puppet making and puppet shows	

In addition to the routine scheduled program, several activities are provided at special times. During the winter a fine ice skating rink was built on the playground in back of the center. Lights were provided and the juke box music was amplified from a window. One upstairs room was turned over to the Sea Scouts who help the rest of the boys with model boats on the land ship set up in the room. Community singing, special entertainments, social dances and square dances add to the program. One of the most interesting groups is the archery tackle making class of teen-agers and adults which meets on Monday nights. This group then has the opportunity to try out the new tackle at the regular indoor shoot at one of the school gyms every Wednesday night. This combination of craft and sport has been very popular.

Many interesting activities are envisioned for the future when the second floor, which has been partitioned off for the first winter, is opened. This summer remodelling will be started, and by fall additional activities will be available in a small gym, a permanent craft center, a "Little Theater" which will be used for forums and discussions, and an enlarged game room with more pool tables, table tennis tables, bowling and other games.

And now the young people of Waterloo have a center of which the entire city is proud

Financing the Center

Two additional advantages to the old school should be mentioned. A saving in the recreation budget was effected as soon as the Recreation Commission office was moved into the new Washington Community Center about a year ago. The Department had been spending over $300 a year in rent for office and warehouse facilities. Under the unusually fair agreement drawn up by the Board of Education, the only cost to the Recreation Commission for the school is the $56 annual insurance cost. Another fine feature is a ramp into the basement where the truck can load and unload all the playground equipment.

What about finances and costs in general? As has been suggested earlier, the recreation staff and interested young people really pitched in to help get the building in shape. They took time out to look for purchases. The popular shop, for example, has only two brand new pieces of equipment, the sander and power saw . The rest is second hand—most of it real "finds" which the recreation staff found after considerable shopping around. This may be part of the explanation of why the labor costs, which include plastering, roofing, plumbing, and other expenses, amounted to only $249. The original condition of the building makes this all the more amazing. For example, not the least of our troubles were—believe it or not—foot high warps in the floor.

Up to the present time, April 1944, the total expenditure for equipment and labor has been $2,500. This includes the fully-equipped shop, game room and lounge. Utilities, coal, insurance, etc., have amounted to $797, and leadership and janitor service have totalled $661. The grand total for expenditures to date is only $3,958.

How much time does it take to evolve a community recreation center from an old building? The Waterloo plan began back in the early months of 1943 when the Recreation Commission decided that now was the time to do something with at least one of the closed school buildings. The Board of Education gave its approval and major repairs were made in the early spring. On May 1st, the Recreation Commission moved into its new office and headquarters. During the summer, the maintenance staff and young people in the neighborhood did their good work. By November 26th and 27th, everything was ready. Two open house evenings were held when 625 youths and adults came to inspect, dance and play games. Reactions of the school officials who had known the original condition of the old building were particularly gratifying. The City Council, too, was impressed. The Recreation Commission, which meets for dinner as a regular practice, invited the Council "to come and see for themselves" on one of these occasions.

They Want More Centers!

Now that Waterloo has this one full-time recreation center in operation, requests are coming to the Recreation Commission and to the City Council for such facilities in other parts of the city. This is a satisfying development to those of us dealing with recreation. Skeptics were numerous when the project was first under discussion. The Recreation Commission wants to provide this type of recreation facility in other parts of the city, and even though a limited budget makes it necessary to concentrate on the single center for the present, it aims to have another one ready to operate by fall.

Here in Waterloo we are working on the theory that such neighborhood centers are long term projects, not "for the duration" affairs. They therefore need careful planning and development. The goal for our city of 60,000 is at least four full-time community centers designed to meet the recreational needs of adults as well as youth. The closed school buildings have given us our golden opportunity to prove the value of permanent indoor recreation facilities.

Above all, the new Washington Community Recreation Center has made our citizens aware of what the Recreation Commission does. It was formerly thought of in terms strictly of playgrounds. Now the city is becoming aware of the fact that the Commission is working hard to develop a year-round program designed to reach all age groups with as varied a program as possible. The future looks bright for recreation in our city, and when our servicemen and women come home we want our community centers ready with a bang-up program!

"Occasionally the quiet voice of some judicious man or woman may be heard to say that young people are just as fine today as they ever were; that the spirit of youth, which is cherished and envied, has always sought expression in play, and that those who object to the way the young people play had better look to the opportunities that are provided before they criticize the use they make of their opportunities."—*D. A. Thom, M.D.,* in *Guiding the Adolescent.*

What They Say About Recreation

"MORE PEOPLE are bored and irked by life than are hurt by it."—*Rev. Joseph Fort Newton* in *Survey Midmonthly,* March 1944.

"Along with the food, clothing, and other necessities we must send war-torn countries, we must send the cooperative play spirit and help all people recapture the fun to be had in family and community play on an international basis."—From the *National 4H Club News.*

"Now more than ever is the time to engage in recreative activities. Participation in sports such as horseback riding, golf, bowling, badminton, and tennis gives the participant that priceless sense of momentary detachment from the monotony of daily tasks."—From *Physical Conditioning.*

"I know of few things better than music to bolster up the morale of a nation. Let's sing our way to victory."—*Lowell Thomas.*

"In total mobilization, recreation is a resource of war. It is a hard-boiled necessity in these times, an investment in our Number One asset—human resources."—From *Spare Time—a War Asset for War Workers.*

"Proper recreation, especially for underprivileged children in depressed areas where playground facilities are scarce and decent amusement rare, is a basic necessity for the building of a great citizenry."—*Rabbi Louis Binstock.*

"The delightful thing about hobbies is that they are so versatile. If you have never enjoyed one that someone else is interested in perhaps you can invent one."—From *Recreational Plans.*

"The bow that's always bent will quickly break,
But if unstrung 'twill serve you at your need,
So let the mind some relaxation take
To come back to its task with fresher heed."
—*Phoebus' Fables,* Book III, Fable 14.

"Recreation gives a fresh realization of interdependence; it heightens comradeship and fellowship, relieves tension and emotional stress."—From *Findings* of the *National Congress of Parents and Teachers.*

"Recreation in the broadest sense means participation in some activity that brings refreshment of spirit and of physical energy."—*Leota Thomas,* Raymond Foundation, Chicago, Illinois.

"Community organization for physical fitness and recreation is necessary for maximum service on the home front, peak production on the industrial front, and the efficiency required on the military front."—*Harold E. Stassen.*

"Sports help maintain the morale, health, and enthusiasm of America's fighting armies and her hard working civilian population."—From *Sports Age.*

"The importance of recreation in relation to the needs of men in the armed forces is generally recognized. It is no less important in the life of the civilian community. Release and relaxation and recreation must be sought in leisure time and in play life."—From *Home Recreation in Wartime.*

"Leisure ceases to be leisure if compulsion enters in. We must choose for ourselves voluntarily the activities or pursuits that are challenging and interesting enough to bring us pleasure and profit."—*Helen Ann Pendergast* in *An Appreciation of Physical Education.*

"Recreation offers a variety of desirable and rewarding activities in which all can utilize the democratic opportunity to participate."—*Hon. Charles Poletti.*

"In recreation groups there is usually spontaneous feeling, and with it go a freedom of action and a joyousness seldom found in ordinary activities."—*George M. Gloss.*

"There has never been a time in our history when it was more necessary to provide recreation in music, drama, community sings, games and play hours for all."—*Harriet Elliott.*

"A hobby is something you go goofy over to keep from going nuts over things in general."—*Peggy Fears* in *Modern Digest,* April 1944.

The SERA Center

An industrial plant performs a modern miracle by transforming a dingy hall into an up-to-date center serving 10,000 employees

This is the view which greets the visitor who strolls into the SERA lounge. The atmosphere of ease which pervades the place makes it an ideal spot in which to relax

REALIZING THE NECESSITY of adequate and accessible recreation facilities, Scovill Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, Connecticut, recently provided a modern recreation center for its 10,000 employees.

Known as the SERA (Scovill Employee Recreation Association) Center, the hall is not a new building but a transformation of the dingy, uninviting Doolittle Alley Hall into an attractive and efficient recreation center.

Scovill, the oldest brass manufacturing concern in the United States, has placed the Center at the complete disposal of the employees by turning it over, without charge, to the Company's Recreation Association. A total of $4,000 was invested in furnishings, with the Company and the SERA each paying half. The Association spent another $2,000 for special equipment.

The SERA is an organization comprised of all employees of the Scovill main paint in Waterbury. The workers elect their officials from among the membership and there are no dues. A powerhouse employee is president and the assistant general manager as director of employee relations is invited to attend SERA directors' meetings as a representative of management.

Adjacent to the Scovill East Mill, the Center is less than a block away from Hamilton Avenue, a main thoroughfare in Waterbury, and is thus available to buses on a frequent schedule. There is much near-by parking space for automobiles.

At a meeting about two years ago the SERA outlined plans "for allowing the use of the Hall and its equipment to members free of charge—but such events as boxing matches, basketball games, dances and other activities open to the general public will require a nominal admittance charge."

It was also announced then that extensive plans for remodeling Doolittle Alley Hall as an employee recreation center were approved by the

Another view of the lounge which shows the fireplace and the trophy shelves

As the visitor passes through the main entrance into the Center he steps into this spacious lobby. At the end of the Main Hall he has a view of the stage

Company who owned the building and had agreed to stand the expense of renovation.

The Hall was originally built during World War I as a cafeteria and recreation building. Following the war, it was used on occasion for meetings, basketball games, movies, or rehearsing employee shows. During this time, the Hall received very little upkeep attention.

In addition to general renovations, the plans included converting main hall facilities easily to accommodate a motion picture or theater audience, a basketball game and spectators, or dancers. Remodeling, in addition to painting and redecorating throughout and laying new floors, called for a lounge — complete with built-in settees, a radio, bookcases, and a fireplace. The favorite and most accessible room of the Center, the lounge is in the northwest corner of the building, directly to the right of the handsome and impressive entrance foyer. It is 31 feet by 16 feet and attractively furnished according to plan.

The fireplace is a prominent feature of the lounge. Standing 14 inches above floor level and with a brick hearth about 4 inches above the floor, it is 3½ feet wide and 2 feet, 7 inches high. Constructed of rubbed concrete with a hood of transite—an asbestos product with the appearance of stone—it is practical as a heating unit but not at all necessary for this purpose since the entire Center can be more than sufficiently heated by steam from the adjacent factory.

In addition to the lounge and entrance foyer, the Center also contains a men's room, clothes checking room, ticket office, and women's lounge, all of which are located to the left of the foyer across from the big lounge. The main hall is adaptable for quick transformation for shows, dancing, sports or general meetings. A kitchen, 25 feet by 8 feet and equipped with an electrical refrigerator and glass display counters, is in the northeast corner of the main hall.

At the south end of the Center lies the stage; behind it are the game room and the men's and

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The airy game room back of the stage is so spacious that many kinds of activities can go on at the same time

A Plan of Action for Recreation

Gedge Harmon

By HOWARD G. DANFORD

WITHIN THE LAST few months the concern of of the general public with the provision of wholesome recreational opportunities for youth has increased tremendously. This is true of the nation at large; it is also true of the State of Wisconsin.

At least six Wisconsin cities have recently established the machinery for the organization and administration of city-wide recreation programs and appropriated funds for their operation. These cities with their budgets are as follows: Green Bay, $20,000; La Crosse, $11,200; Waukesha, $9,600; Beloit, $7,500; Menominee Falls, $750 for this winter and $1,500 for the year 1944. This amounts to one dollar per capita; and Superior, $4,000 for the winter with a referendum planned for next spring to decide on future finances for the department.

In addition, many other communities, both large and small, have set up youth recreation centers for the first time. A number of others are planning to do so. Communities with long established departments of recreation are expanding their youth programs. Individuals and organizations never before primarily concerned with recreation, suddenly are impressed with its values and importance, and old friends, such as the Parent-Teacher Association, are vigorously stimulating its growth and development.

The factors underlying this rapid expansion of public interest in recreation are chiefly two in number. They are (1) support and encouragement of recreation programs for members of our armed services and for workers in war industry by the Federal government, United Service Organizations, American Red Cross, and many other groups; and (2) fear on the part of parents and other adults that unless wholesome recreation activities are provided the delinquency problem in their community may become very acute.

This, therefore, is the situation with which we are confronted in Wisconsin: a great upsurge of interest in recreation programs; communities, ready and anxious to do something—and many, because of the absence of trained recreation leadership, not at all certain what should be done, or how to do it. It is extremely important that communities establish desirable policies and practices at the outset because after these become fixed it is difficult and often wasteful to change them. Great harm may be done both to the community and to the cause of recreation by ill-advised programs and procedures.

PRINCIPLE: *Creative participation is an essential element of good administration.*

This principle calls for all those concerned in the recreation program to be brought into the planning. Too many youth activities are adult conceived, adult planned, and adult administered. Youth should be brought into the planning as well as into the plan. Unless you do this you may set up an elaborate program and find to your amazement that youth is strangely uninterested in it all. Youth interest is very closely tied up with youth activity in planning and initiating any recreation program.

This does not mean that youth should be given a free rein to do as it pleases, but it

This article by Mr. Danford, who is Director of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Safety of the Madison, Wisconsin, Public Schools, appeared in *The Wisconsin Parent-Teacher,* January, 1944, and is reprinted by permission. What he has to say to the Parent-Teacher groups of Wisconsin might well be addressed to community groups anywhere interested in promoting well-balanced programs of recreation for their cities.

does mean that boys and girls should be invited to meet with adults to help in the planning and the operation of their own activities. They should be invited to share responsibility is so far as they are capable of doing so. In the words of Boyd Bode, "Democracy, like swimming, requires practice as well as theory."

The machinery through which youth, parents, school officials, recreation leaders, and others may express themselves in regard to the program can be very simple or it can be somewhat complicated. It may take the form of an occasional meeting of all interested parties, or a recreation council with both youth and adult members may be organized, or, as in Sheboygan and Madison, youth councils may be established with adult advisors. The machinery is not so important. What is important is that *youth* and *adults* work together in the planning and administering of recreation for youth.

PRINCIPLE: *Good organization makes possible the systematic collection and use of facts as a basis of policies and procedures.*

Communities should be able to answer a number of questions before they set up recreational programs. Only a few examples can be given here. They are:

1. How can recreation in our community be financed?
2. Is this plan a sound one and will it provide a stable and enduring kind of financial support?
3. What wholesome types of recreation are now available to youth?
4. What is needed?
5. What facilities are available?
6. How are other communities of like size handling this problem?
7. Where can we get printed materials which will be helpful to us?
8. What are the characteristics of a good recreation leader and where can we secure such leaders?

These and many other questions should be answered before communities attempt to launch a recreation program for youth. The answers may be secured by one or more of the following techniques:

1. Learn your state laws as they relate to recreation. Last summer the Wisconsin legislature amended the law to enable all school districts in the state to establish programs of recreation and to appropriate funds for this purpose. Do not be satisfied with a plan of financial support for recreation which depends upon voluntary contributions, tag days, and other equally unsatisfactory methods of raising funds. There can be little stability or continuity to a program so financed. It may be necessary to begin in this manner but every effort should be exerted toward placing recreation upon the same kind of financial footing as that upon which education now rests.

2. Write to the directors of recreation in the larger cities of the state and ask them how they are solving their youth recreation problems.

3. Write to the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City. Ask for a list of its publications. If possible, join the Association and receive the monthly magazine and bulletin service. The cost is $5 per year.

4. Write to the U. S. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., for a list of its publications on recreation.

5. Survey your community to determine what is now being done to provide recreation for youth.

6. Determine what needs to be done after reading about this problem as widely as possible and discussing it with recreation and child welfare leaders. Keep in mind that some people cannot recognize a need even when it is almost self-evident to others. In this connection it will be helpful to read Chapter VI of *Youth and the Future,* published by the American Council on Education, Washington, D. C. This is the general report of the American Youth Commission. Chapter VI is entitled, "The Needs of Youth."

PRINCIPLE: *Good organization requires the securing of a responsible and effective chief executive.*

The success or failure of any program of recreation will depend chiefly upon the quality of the leadership provided. A poor school teacher can "get by" for some time because her pupils are required by law to attend her classes. Participation in recreation activities is entirely voluntary, however, and youth will simply refuse to take part where the leadership is inferior.

Communities, regardless of the size of their programs, should assign to the best qualified person they can secure complete responsibility for the organization and administration of a program. A policy making committee or board of adults and

youth should be created to work with the director but there should be only one person in charge of the complete program with clearly defined responsibilities. Two directors of recreation in one community is as impractical as two superintendents of schools or two head coaches of the same football team.

Does a school teacher make a good leader of recreation? Some do and some don't. It is generally unwise to use as recreation leaders for high school youth their classroom teachers. The number of teachers who are possessed of a nervous system sufficiently flexible to enable them to discharge successfully the present dissimilar roles of teacher and recreation leader is small indeed.

The good leader will understand and like people. He will comprehend their hungers, their needs, aspirations and sensitivities. He will possess a sense of humor. He will be enthusiastic about recreation and will be able to arouse enthusiasm in others. He will desire to stimulate the creative impulses in people, develop their initiative, provide for freedom and productive activity. His belief in and enthusiasm for democracy will find expression in the organization of self-governing groups under his leadership. He must have organizing ability and productive energy. He should possess skill in the particular activity of which he is a leader. And, finally, but of tremendous importance, he must possess skill in dealing with people.

"Successful programs of recreation," says the author, "do not 'just grow' like Topsy, but are developed in conformity with sound fundamental principles of good organization and administration. It is the purpose of this article to present certain of these basic principles in the hope that they will be of help to communities in their efforts to solve the problems they will encounter in establishing and conducting recreation activities for youth."

PRINCIPLE: *All school activities and services should be made to yield as large an educational return as possible.*

Every community has thousands of dollars invested in school buildings. It is good business sense to use these buildings as extensively and as intensively as possible. Why rent a building for recreational purposes if the school building can be used? Milwaukee has for years been known as "The City of Lighted School Buildings" because of the extent to which it uses its buildings at night for recreation.

The Parent-Teacher Association is in a strategic position to persuade school officials that the school buildings should be used after school, at night, and even on Saturdays. In Madison, ten of the city's fourteen public school buildings are open on Saturdays for recreation activities, with approximately 2,500 boys and girls taking part in the program.

Many high school youth would prefer recreation facilities away from a school building. They want a place they can call their own—a youth center. These centers usually provide soft-drink and milk bars; lounge equipped with juke boxes for dancing; the recreation rooms with equipment for table tennis, pool, and other table games. The boys and girls have a major portion of the responsibility for planning and carrying out the programs, with *unobtrusive* adult supervision.

Properly operated such youth centers should serve a very useful function. However, they should supplement, not supplant, extensive recreation programs conducted in school buildings, parks, playgrounds, libraries, churches, and in facilities administered by various youth-serving organizations.

PRINCIPLE: *Good administration provides for youth activities, having social significance, and having vital relationship to their life needs and interests.*

The program of activities should be sufficiently broad and of such a nature as to provide many of the basic satisfactions that youth must have to be emotionally stable, mentally adaptable, and socially effective. Consideration should be given to types of activity that meet youth's need for high adventure and dramatic action, which is intensified by wartime excitement. If this need is not fulfilled in acceptable ways, it may find expression in delinquent acts.

A few specific suggestions in planning the program follow:

1. Provide a wide range of activities of different types: directed, self-directed; sports, dances, music, dramatics, crafts.
2. Offer boys and girls a chance to participate in activities together, such as social and square dances, mixed volley ball, shuffleboard, badminton, and table tennis.
3. Include activities for both sexes and all age groups.
4. Give both children and parents a chance to make suggestions concerning the program.
5. For activities such as social dancing, provide

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They'll Be Busy in Tucson This Summer!

Tucson, Arizona, the beautiful desert winter resort city with the friendly, small town atmosphere, is spreading her wings broadly in planning her summer recreation program, according to Marvin A. Clemens. Mr. Clemens, who has been serving as the city's Superintendent of Recreation for more than a year, has had long experience as a leader of young people's activities.

CITIZENS of Tucson, Arizona, and the servicemen in near-by camps will not lack for recreational opportunities this summer. In addition to the regular playground centers and the swimming pool centers, the Recreation Department has secured the use of several well-equipped school playgrounds. This year, too, since the demands for labor at the defense plants have been less, more teachers qualified to conduct playground activities have become available.

The regular summer program for children and adults has been greatly expanded. It will include opportunities to participate not only in the regular athletic programs and tournament meets in swimming, baseball, basketball, volley ball, handball, track events, tennis and golf for boys and girls of all ages, but will also include instruction in band and orchestra instruments, woodshop work, dramatics, and metal crafts.

The Tucson Little Theater will be open all summer under the leadership of a director who is planning some short, swift-moving sketches suitable for showing at the Army and Navy camps in and around Tucson, for evening entertainment in Tucson's public parks, and for entertainment of the servicemen confined in the Tucson Veterans' Hospital. Other special programs are planned for the Veterans' Hospital.

The Tucson Armory will be the center of a number of special activities to take care of the congested population in that locality. The basketball tournament will be played there, and there will be table tennis and shuffleboard contests, and weekly dances for teen age youngsters of the neighborhood at which admission will be based on 25-cent war stamp purchase. The sale of war stamps and bonds will be further promoted by making their purchase essential to participation in parties and dances being planned by the Department.

Concerts on Sunday afternoons will be continued during the summer, and it is planned to have concerts, plays, shows and rallies, as well as exhibitions of special dances and games for public entertainment in the Armory Park which is equipped with stage, bleachers and loud-speaking facilities. The bands and talent from the various camps are cooperating in this effort.

Since Tucson is the center of the earliest Indian culture in America, the Recreation Department arranged with the Indian Agencies and the University of Arizona Museum Board to have an exhibit of the native handcraft and culture. And since the earliest and highest type of Mexican-Spanish culture is also native to Arizona and Tucson, the Department, in cooperation with the Spanish-Mexican Societies, is planning an exhibit at the University of Arizona Museum of the arts and crafts of these groups. Too little is known generally in America regarding these groups which represent the best and earliest types of American archeology.

The climax of the summer recreation program will be the presentation on Labor Day of an historical pageant written, organized, and directed by members of the Recreation Department staff. It is to be organized on a city-wide basis, with all the playgrounds participating and it will be preceded by a parade over the main streets of town in which all local organizations, business houses, industries, and the Army and Navy will be asked to participate.

The Tucson Recreation Department cooperating with the American Women's Volunteer Service organization, is operating a Soldier Recreation Center with headquarters in the old Country Club building. The facilities are quite complete, including a swimming pool, dance hall, volley ball and basketball equipment, tennis courts, handball, table tennis, reading rooms, and a kitchen and lunch room service operating from eleven in the morning to eleven at night. The other services are just as complete, including sewing and mending services, weekly instruction classes in dancing, weekly dances, parties and a formal dance once a month.

Among the activities now operating are:

Estevan Center—a modern clubhouse and park for colored children and adults, with lunch counter, dance hall, ping-pong tables, stage, juke boxes in an up-to-date, air-conditioned building. In the park are a complete athletic field, swimming pool,

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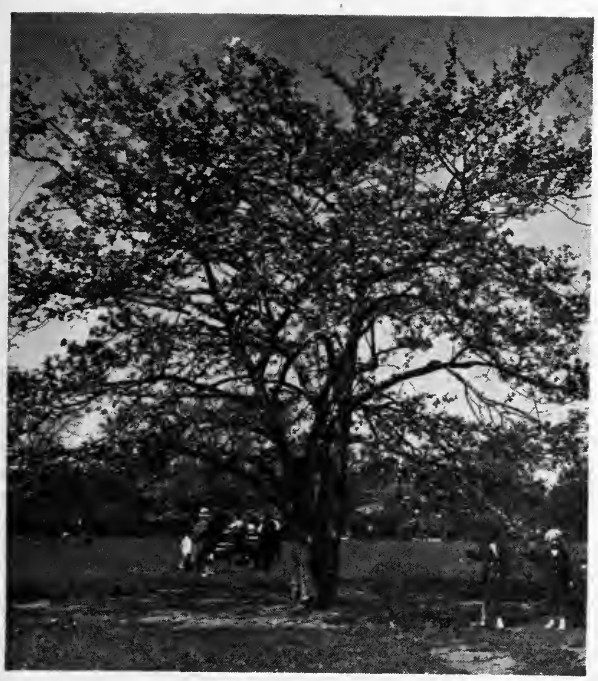

WANTED

A tree to climb. Call every normal boy and girl in America!

Bringing the Forests to the People

By HARRIS A. REYNOLDS
Secretary
Massachusetts Forest and Park Association

IF THE PARENTS and other taxpayers of this country would make a serious effort to supply the need expressed in that hypothetical ad, they would be tackling in a practical manner two of our biggest national problems—forest conservation and delinquency.

As farm boys we had to invent our own games, and a favorite was to go into the woodlot and climb trees. A boy would climb near the top of a slender sapling, grasp the trunk firmly, throw his weight vigorously to one side, and the tree would bend in a graceful curve like a fishing rod and lower him gently to the ground. The game was to see who could bend the tallest tree. We knew nothing about the principles of physics involved, but we always came home ready for a hearty supper and a good night's sleep. That surplus animal energy, too often misdirected, had been expended in harmless and healthful sport. It may be a trait inherited from our arboreal ancestors, but I have yet to discover the normal boy and girl who does not have a desire to climb a tree. The climbing of trees is merely symbolic of the scores of things that youngsters can do in a forest and at the same time absorb useful knowledge of nature.

As a nation, we have been slow to appreciate the economic, recreational, and social values of community forests although many of the cities which have established them are enthusiastic over the results secured. It is to be hoped that in our postwar planning the community forest will come into its own.

To satisfy an inherent craving to commune with nature, to get a taste of the primitive, in normal times people of all ages visit our national and state forests and parks by the millions annually. A large percentage of our citizens get much of their recreation by fishing and hunting. Huge sums are spent to send boys and girls to summer camps in forested areas. There is something about "roughing it" that engenders the spirit of adventure; it is a reversion to pioneer days, a developer of self-reliance, a subtle builder of character.

If these infrequent excursions into the forests are so enjoyable and so physically beneficial, why should we not make them a possibility at all seasons of the year to a larger percentage of the population? As a matter of fact, only a small proportion of the people, and especially the children of this country, have ever seen a national park or a national forest. A somewhat larger number have access to our state forests and parks, but at best these visits are infrequent. What we really need is to make the recreational benefits of the forest so much enjoyed in the vacation period available the year round. And it can be done.

For about two and a half centuries Americans were mostly pioneers living in or near the forests. They had to hew their farms out of the forest and much of the timber was destroyed for lack of a market. With the coming of the industrial age they found lumbering a profitable occupation and one forest region after another was denuded until today most of the remaining virgin timber in this country is found in the Pacific Coast states. In

the wake of the sawmill came forest fires, and millions of acres are so devoid of tree growth that they will have to be planted to restore the forests of commercial species. Most of the Eastern states are now importing largely from the far West three-fourths or more of their lumber requirements, while their own forest lands are producing only a fraction of the timber they should be growing. Besides, the cost for freight alone on this Western lumber is more than it would cost to grow equally serviceable timber at home. It was the profit motive that led our people to cut their forests and the profit motive will restore them. This profit in growing new forests, however, will not come from the value of the wood produced alone, but from the satisfaction of bringing the many other benefits of the forest back to the people.

The history of all peoples is one of wastefulness of their natural resources until the pinch of scarcity has forced them to conserve. Many once prosperous nations have failed to recognize this need in time to save them from a state of poverty from which they have never recovered.

Europe Began Early

In Europe, however, the people began several centuries ago to care for their forests and from this effort the profession of forestry came into being. They soon learned that it was profitable to have forests near their villages, and today from twenty to fifty per cent of all the forest land in the various countries of Europe is owned by the cities and towns. Three-fourths of the woodlands of Switzerland are in communal forests and the famous Sihlwald, the city forest of Zurich, boasts of records running back one thousand years. The city has continued to enlarge its forest, paying as much for woodland as we pay for good farm land in this country. Many of the smaller villages own large forests, the profits from which are sufficient to meet all of the public expenses, thus relieving the citizens of local taxes. But the profits from the forest products represent only part of the benefits. Inns and restaurants are located in the forests and the people patronize them throughout the year. The forests are bird and game sanctuaries, the overflow of game restocking the surrounding territory. When the deer become too numerous for the food supply, special hunting licenses are sold to reduce the numbers and the fees from that source swell the profits from the forests. Teachers take their classes into the forests for nature study. The forests beautify the countryside and conserve the water supplies. The communal forest is a self-supporting wild park usually within easy walking distance from the homes of the citizens.

It is not to be expected that we can more than approximate the money returns from community forests that obtain in the European countries. Our wage scale is higher and our prices for forest products are lower because of the relative abundance of timber in this country. But in every other respect we can profit from the community forest just as much as the Europeans. In fact, the benefits in recreational values would in any case be more important than the financial gains.

"The community forest is a living, organic thing that will grow in usefulness as long as it is given proper management, but with neglect will deteriorate into a liability. If the sponsoring agency is prepared to give perpetual follow-up in use and care, it will yield continuous dividends as long as the community shall endure."

Economic Values

As a commercial proposition, however, the community forest is superior to any other type of public ownership. We have millions of acres in our national forests located chiefly in the far West and most of our forest producing states have established state forests. But these lands are usually located far from the lumber markets, especially the western national forests. This means long hauls to market and hence the stumpage value of merchantable timber is less than half that of the timber grown on the community forest, where most of the forest products can be delivered by team and truck to the ultimate consumer. The community forest is generally located on better soil, since many of them are established on abandoned farm lands, and hence the average production is higher than that of national forests. Many of the latter are situated in the mountains where the soil in poor and growing season short.

The conservation of water is an important factor in the creation of community forests and most of the forest land acquired thus far by cities and towns was bought for the protection of the water supplies. Some of them utilize their water for power before it is turned into the water supply system. Far-seeing towns which expect to increase in population would do well to acquire land on their watersheds for community forests while it is relatively cheap. Such land can be made self-liquidating by the growing of a single crop of timber.

In periods of depression the community forest has been found especially valuable in providing useful work for the unemployed. Millions of dollars were spent on the improvement of community forests during the past depression. Even in normal times many people can be given temporary employment in these forests, especially in winter when other forms of outdoor work can not be done. In Europe the small farmers of the community are given regular employment in the winter seasons.

Costs Involved

When one is trying to sell an idea to a community he must be prepared to answer the question "What will it cost?" To establish a forest the town must first acquire the land. If the area already contains forest growth, the future cost is only that of protection and maintenance, and such costs will vary with the size and type of growth. In such cases the question of cost will depend upon the conditions in each individual tract. On the other hand, if the land must be planted most states now provide trees for reforestation to the community free of cost. As a rule two men will plant an acre a day and the cost will depend upon the going wage rate. Of course the forest must be given care at the proper time just as any other crop. Planting, weeding, pruning, improvement cutting and fire protection are the principal requirements. At best an annual expenditure of twenty-five to fifty cents per acre should be ample to provide proper management. Many places already own forest lands obtained through tax delinquency or bought for other purposes. Some of the present forests were gifts of public-spirited citizens. The community forest is an ideal memorial to the services of war veterans or of individuals and not infrequently towns have dedicated their community forests as such memorials.

The community forest is not a fad; it is an established institution in this country. It had its origin in the common lands of colonial days. These lands were mostly forested and with few exceptions they found their way into private ownership. Occasionally a township is found where a considerable area still remains in the common forest.

Massachusetts a Pioneer

The revival of this form of public forest in this country was greatly stimulated when in 1913 the Massachusetts Forest and Park Association made a study of the communal forests in Europe and started an educational campaign for the establishment of town forests in that state. As a means of arousing public interest it made a standing offer to plant 5,000 trees, free of cost, for any town that would set aside one hundred or more acres as a community forest. Nearly a quarter million trees were planted by the Association on the forests thus established. The movement has had a steady growth since that time and there are now 127 cities and towns in Massachusetts which have community forests. These forests average about 300 acres in size. They aggregate 38,500 acres on which have been planted nearly 8,000,000 young trees.

The Possibilities

A recent census made by the U. S. Forest Service shows 2,269 community forests containing 2,908,113 acres, or an average of 1,281 acres per forest. Since some of these forests are very large areas owned by counties, they somewhat distort the average figure. But the possibilities of the community forest in the conservation movement becomes apparent when we consider that we have 36,000 cities, towns and villages throughout the country, most of which could well afford to have community forests. There are very few towns that do not contain some land suitable for this purpose.

The real need in the creation of a public forest in any community is some individual or organization with sufficient imagination to visualize what the town should be in the future. If a beautiful grove within or near a town were about to be cut for lumber, every woman's club, garden club and other civic organization would be up in arms to save it from the axe. But no such interest is likely to be aroused by the possibility of creating such a forest. When we consider that a beautiful young forest can be established in twenty to thirty years and that the money so invested will eventually return to the public treasury, it should not be difficult for any community to set its idle forest land to work. It is possible that certain beauty spots in a community forest would be reserved from commercial cutting because the trees would have greater esthetic than timber value, but most of the area could be utilized for timber production without lowering its value for water conservation, recreation or the production of wildlife. When the value of the forest as a breathing place for the citizens becomes better understood there is no doubt that the community forest will take its rightful place in the conservation movement.

The Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued two folders, one entitled *Community Forests;* the other, *Community Forests — A Practical Step in Postwar Planning.* These publications give some facts about the recreational and community uses of these areas which we quote:

A forest can be used for recreation while the trees are growing into a profitable cash crop. For example, more than 500,000 persons have visited the Onondaga County forest in New York State for recreational purposes in a single year. This forest has two large lodges equipped for week end use by the churches and civic organizations. Other equipment for recreation includes swings, nature walks, swimming pools, horseshoe and shuffleboard courts, and teeter-totters.

Community forests are being used as wildlife and game refuges, and in them streams are being stocked with fish. Where this is being done, hunting and fishing possibilities are being improved in areas adjacent to living centers. The public value of the forest for these purposes does not in any way hurt the growing trees. While contributing to the steady flow of clear streams, such forests may at the same time aid in solving the larger national problem of flood control.

For Community Welfare

Happy, prosperous communities result when people are gainfully employed, when tax rates are low, and when there is a convenient source of raw material to perpetuate local industries. Many communities might find the establishment of nearby forests on misused lands a means for building up the natural resources, creating new raw materials. The production, harvesting, and manufacturing of the forest crops may provide more employment, help stabilize local industries, and possibly lower local taxes. The community forest thus may offer one way to great community welfare.

There are certain things that are essential to good living in any community. A healthy environment is one—good water, recreation, absence of nuisance areas. Another is general prosperity which involves support of local industry as well as freedom from unemployment and relief of destitution. A third is a good educational system, and a fourth is an undefinable something about a town that makes it a good place to live in, which is manifested by beauty of surroundings, local pride, and a spirit of public service among its citizens. Community forests help in one way or another to develop all of these fundamentals, and so community forests are a natural element of all local planning.

The nature of the community forest planned for any particular town will depend on the uses planned for it. Usually it will combine all of the functions just suggested and have many other uses besides. The size, the location, and the ownership, whether county, municipal, or school ownership, will depend on its intended use as well as availability of a suitable tract.

A few examples will suggest how these forests come into being:

Grand Rapids, Michigan, has an area of 360 acres which was originally purchased for a war industry. No longer needed for that purpose, it is being transformed into a community forest. Already long rows of pine trees planted by the school children are reaching above the weeds and brush. Down by the creek are large maples and elms. Soon after the war this tract of land will add one more beauty spot to the city's recreation areas. The forest is as yet unnamed. What a wonderful memorial this forest would make if dedicated to the community's soldier boys, some of whom may have helped to plant it. By dedicating green forests as perpetual living memorials to their military heroes, communities may do a grand job of building up their own self-esteem, as well as appropriately doing honor to their soldiers.

At one time the most prominent landmarks at Glenlyon, Pennsylvania, were great mine dumps of raw earth and ashes. On windy days the ash was whipped into the air, settling like a blanket on the town. Under the leadership of a young forester and a local service club, the school children planted forests of black locust on the ash dumps and conifers on the hillsides. In thirteen years the town has been transformed into a place of beauty and, better still, there has resulted a remarkable improvement in the social attitudes of its people. . . . The Coal Company was able to reduce its police force from three men to one. No longer do gangs of boys carry on continual warfare. There has been a marked decrease in forest and property fires, and betterment of scholastic records. Not only that, but the influence spread to the adult population. The result has been a general landscaping of the yards, more paint on the houses, and a refreshing atmosphere of law-abiding community pride prevailing where there had formerly been a tendency to segregate by sects and nationalities.

Gedge Harmon

A Day Camp in Dowagiac

The Day Camp at Dowagiac, Michigan, is a part of the recreation program for youth in which the city, the Board of Education, and community agencies are enthusiastically cooperating

By CHARLES CANFIELD

A DAY CAMP PROGRAM in which each youngster is given some real, meaningful work to do as a contribution to the group effort is an integral part of the summer recreation setup in Dowagiac, Michigan.

The beginnings of Dowagiac's day camp came in the winter of 1940 when the E. R. Fitch Foundation, with an eye to securing a play area for a community fast becoming commercialized, purchased resort property in the lake section of southwestern Michigan.

The site is a seventy acre tract on the shores of Cable Lake in Cass County—property which was once the summer camp of the Potawataime Indians some ten miles distant from Dowagiac. One grove has been a family picnic spot, and the lake a favorite fishing and swimming place for this rural section for over fifty years. Fifty acres of fertile farm land adjoin the wooded shore line.

Once the land was acquired, the Foundation turned to the Community Council for plans in developing it for maximum use by the people of the Dowagiac area. After considerable discussion, the Council decided that the Board of Education should take over the program and the needed funds would be made available.

The Dowagiac public schools had recognized for some time their obligation as a social organization to meet the leisure-time needs of the community, and the school personnel was anxious to contribute to the welfare of the children beyond the traditional limits of the classroom.

Parents, it was recognized, were faced with situations which they were unprepared to meet. Additional demands on the home because of the war accentuated the need for a program providing children with something to do outside the school.

The Board of Education believed that meeting these personalized needs has been paramount in building confidence and lasting good will among members of the community. The mother who can deliver her child to a neighborhood play area for a safe, busy, and profitable day is very apt to be a school booster. Parents presented with safeguards to all the hazards that attend unsupervised swimming, hiking, and similar sports which young people seek in the summer will generally be very enthusiastic. A third summer service resulting in increased support in Dowagiac has been the continuation of music instruction. Junior band members meet every morning with rehearsals twice weekly and the high school band, augmented with parents and graduates, presents concerts weekly. Evidencing satisfaction in this field, for the last three years at community elections in the spring citizens have asked for sizeable appropriations for the high school band.

The Camp Comes Into Being

With a well-established summer program as a basis, the Board of Education accepted the job of developing the lake property with the idea that it would be an extension of the summer playgrounds. Services of the Kellogg Foundation Camp staff were made available for consultation, and finally it was decided to shape the program toward a day camp, transporting children back and forth in school buses.

Maximum use was assured as the property was thus available to adults and family groups evenings and week ends. After a year's trial, the Foundation heartily endorsed the program by making more funds available. Several acres have been put under cultivation as a large school garden under the direction of the Smith-Hughes agri-

culture teachers and the Future Farmers of America Club. In this way the children gain valuable farm work experience.

In order to make the camp program a definite part of the summer recreation program, children are picked up at the three school playgrounds by school buses. Parent consent blanks are given to the children at the play centers. Every attempt is made to keep the neighborhood playground the center of organization and administration of the camp program.

Paid personnel selected from the school staff and older boys and girls who volunteer as helpers are directly in charge of the camp program. Working under the direction of the camp staff in cooperation with many lay and professional groups, the routine is planned to supplement the daily experiences of children on the playgrounds in town. Some of the personnel work interchangeably at the camp and on the playgrounds. Salaries are met jointly by the Board of Education and the Fitch Foundation. One school nurse and the home economics teachers are in attendance at the camp.

In the matter of health and safety the camp conforms to all state and county requirements. A pressure water system has been installed for the kitchen, toilets, drinking fountains, caretaker's cottage and for fire prevention. An electric refrigerator in the kitchen insures preservation of foods. Toilets and kitchen were constructed with carpenters from Dowagiac cooperating without compensation. Modern plumbing has been installed with septic tanks and cesspools. Local medical men have cooperated in giving physical examinations to the children. First aid equipment, waterfront safety devices, lifeguards, and general health and safety rules have been followed throughout.

Equipment from the school cafeteria is moved to the camp kitchen as soon as school is out. Three cooks, who prepare the school lunch during the year, are retained all summer as camp cooks. No charge is made for the lunch and the menus are prepared by the school economics department. The food is served to the children sitting at outdoor tables and general cafeteria rules are followed.

During the first year (1941) in order that all children might have a chance to attend, the week was divided so that first and second graders attended on Monday, third and fourth on Tuesday, fifth and sixth on Wednesday, and seventh and eighth on Thursday. The camp is reserved on Fridays for the use of groups such as Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls. With the addition of facilities the second year, children have been given the opportunity to attend every day. Personnel was added so that the camp could take care of as many as wanted to attend. This arrangement proved to be helpful in homes where most, if not all, of the adult members were working. The division by grades proved to be very satisfactory, however, in establishing procedures at the start.

Every effort is made to give each youngster some definite work to do as a contribution to the group effort. Some work in the garden, others police the grounds, older boys are asked to help in construction work or in cleaning the beach. All the work is done under the supervision of leaders and has been an important part of the daily routine.

Evenings and week ends the camp is open to adults and family groups for fishing, bathing, and picnicking. A fee is charged for the use of tables, boats, and other facilities, and a store in the grove sells ice cream, soft drinks and candy. The income from the public during the 1943 season from these sources was over $1,500, which was all turned back into the grounds for improvements. The use of the grounds by the public in no way interferes with day camping as the children leave daily before five o'clock.

The Program

The program for the day begins when at 8:30 every morning the buses pick up the children at the schools and take them to camp. The first week the children are taken on a short get-acquainted hike which serves to teach the campers the limits of the camp, location of toilets, piers, drinking fountains, and so forth.

After the hike, the girls play slog ball, dodge ball, and many other games. The boys have a swimming period while the smaller children play quiet games. The girls then take their turn at swimming, and the boys have a baseball game. Boys from kindergarten to second grade swim, and the girls of the same age rest. Older boys and girls work in the Victory Garden picking beans, knocking bugs off the potato plants, hoeing, and performing other similar tasks.

Then comes lunch! During the first week of camp the children were so hungry that they lined up about a half hour before the meals were ready—and there were seconds for everybody! One rest hour after lunch is compulsory and children lie

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Now Youth Has a Chance!

By W. C. YANCEY
President, United Recreation Foundation
Shreveport, Louisiana

Shreveport's youth centers are the outgrowth of a series of meetings attended by wise parents who had become deeply concerned over the kind of recreation their children were turning to on week nights.

Do the young people like these centers? Just ask Mary, or John, Tom, or Jane, or any of the hundreds of boys and girls who are regular patrons! Or, better still, drop in at a center about eight o'clock some Saturday night and see for yourself! If "actions speak louder than words" the centers will fairly shout "Good Times."

THERE ARE three recreation centers for youth now in operation in Shreveport. One, known as the "Sequoyah Club," is located in the State Arts Exhibit Building, where the decorations are carried out, as the name implies, in Indian style. The boys and girls themselves did all the work of interior decoration, and they may well be proud of their accomplishments.

The second center, which bears the cryptic title of "Whatsit Club," operates in Cedar Grove, a subdivision of Shreveport. In this particular section no building was available. One of our public spirited citizens offered us a portion of a garage building measuring about thirty by ninety feet. The building has been decorated artistically and is now in use as a center. A project is underway in this community, under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club, to build a new recreation building. Meanwhile present facilities are proving entirely satisfactory to the young people.

The third center, "Byrd House," takes its name from the Byrd High School on whose back lawn it is situated.

In each of these centers the young people have set up their own standards of ethics and have printed membership cards with simple, but specific, rules of conduct which govern the center. They have elected recreation "police" who wear an armband with the letter "R.P." plainly visible, and any kind of disturbance is handled with dispatch by these officials.

At each center there is an employed recreation director who serves as hostess and, with parents from the sponsoring group, assists the young people in their program. The United Recreation Foundation has provided juke boxes, ping-pong tables, checkers, dominoes, Chinese checkers, horseshoes, croquet sets, badminton and other game equipment. Each center has a refreshment stand where cold drinks are sold.

The centers, all of which are open on week days from 4:30 until 8:30 P. M., and on Friday and Saturday nights from 7:00 to 11:00 P. M., have had splendid support from the boys and girls in the matter of the time schedule. And while they belong to young people from twelve to twenty one or two years of age, parents are cordially invited to attend. The young people periodically entertain their parents, who come in large numbers, with programs which they plan. Thus fathers and mothers have an opportunity to learn by first-hand observation what their children enjoy and what their needs are.

It Took Time!

All of this did not happen over night. Many days and weeks were spent in making surveys, collecting funds, securing trained workers, finding locations for the centers, and selling our "goods" to the public. The story back of the scenes is an interesting one.

Early in February of this year, a group of parents of the First Methodist Church in Shreveport, who were sponsoring the Sunday evening program of the Methodist Youth Fellowship, began a discussion group at the same time the young people were having their worship service and discussion period. The question that they naturally asked themselves was, "What can we do to help provide recreation for the young people on week nights?" Out of these conferences came the idea that ultimately led to the creation of the United Recreation Foundation of Shreveport.

At our meetings parents reported that when they said to their children, "Don't go to such and such a place because the environment is bad," the natural comeback was, "Well, where shall we go?" So the parents decided to make a study of the situation. Their survey showed there was not a commercial establishment in the city where liquor was not sold and where the influences could be considered wholesome.

Immediately church and civic groups, and public-spirited leaders began to demand a constructive program of recreation for the teen age group which would incorporate the social features the young people had been seeking in commercial establishments. In a publicity campaign, 10,000 letters and pamphlets were mailed out to parents or distributed through parent-teacher and church groups. Through this method city-wide interest was aroused. The enthusiastic support of the young people themselves was an important element.

The United Recreation Foundation

The United Recreation Foundation of Shreveport which was created to conduct the program is composed of men and women representing private organizations in the city interested in recreation. The Chamber of Commerce, Recreation Committee, the Recreation Council of the Parent-Teacher Association, Recreation Committees from the Rotary Club, Lions' and Kiwanis Clubs, the Optimists' Club, the Woman's Department Club, and many of the churches pooled their planning and worked out a city-wide program for the operation of recreation centers for the teen age group.

The Foundation is incorporated and chartered both locally and in our State Capitol at Baton Rouge. Membership is made up of parents, and

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Country Dancing Around the U. S. A.

By LAURENCE B. CAIRNS

ONE THING is certain about the after-the-war period in the United States! Country dancing will occupy a major place in the social-recreation program of the people, urban aud suburban!

There is plenty of evidence for this statement. It was not an unusual experience, in my visits to USO clubs, to be told by a club director that he didn't think the boys in the camp near his club or his volunteer hostesses would be interested, only to have literally hundreds of servicemen and girls turn up for the announced program, with enthusiasm mounting during the evening.

Sometimes I would be told that "we've tried it and it was a flop," but they were willing to try it again. In all but one or two instances our efforts met with complete success. The less successful programs occurred where poor promotion had been done, or, as happened twice, when totally inadequate music was available.

What Is Needed?

What are the necessary ingredients? A positive, enthusiastic attitude, good promotion, reasonably good music, and emphasis on teaching rather than on old-time "calling." Recreation leaders who know how to teach an activity, getting results quickly, gradually moving from simple figures toward the more complex ones, do the best job. Old-time "callers," usually accustomed to calling for very small groups composed largely of experienced dancers, are not always successful when they attempt to direct the dancing of large groups of beginners. They frequently do not know how to give directions in easily understood language.

Our experience has been that excellent progress can be made with groups numbering as many as three hundred people, almost all beginners, if simple directions are given in a clear, understandable voice and language by a leader who is sympathetic, friendly, has a sense of humor and a quick wit, and who really "takes hold" as if he knows what he is doing and means business.

One of Mr. Cairns' chief assignments as program consultant of the National Council, Army and Navy Y.M.C.A., was the introduction of square dances and other forms of country dances. What he saw in the course of trips made during the past year, which took him into over a hundred USO clubs and similar centers in thirty-two states, convinced him that the interest in square dancing on the part of servicemen and women and civilians alike assures its permanent popularity.

It is not necessary to debate the relative merits of country dancing and so-called social dancing, nor to emphasize the many important values inherent in country dancing—certainly not to readers of RECREATION. But it is thrilling to discover the reactions of hundreds of servicemen from all parts of the country, as well as local civilians in the programs in the service centers. Many servicemen do not, or think they cannot, dance the modern ballroom dances. For one reason or another they come and look on, but do not participate; as many as 50 per cent of them, in many centers. On innumerable occasions I have had these boys say to me, "Thanks a lot, mister. This has been the best fun I've had for months. I don't do the other dances, but this is fun." The words change from place to place but the reaction is the same.

"We Do It This Way!"

Of course there are problems! Some of the local folk may have been keeping up their square dancing and when the party is announced at the USO club frequently the local old-timers, or new-timers, are invited and they drop in. The difference in styles, in calls, in actual combinations of figures is noticeable. Usually the local dancers are good sports and do the dance your way, although they frequently can't resist the natural impulse to seek you out and remind you that they do the dance differently! In one club in Texas I was calling the good old "Birdie in the Cage" which one finds everywhere. The group of about one hundred dancers picked it up quickly and were having a grand time. Without any warning whatever, I heard a voice back of me saying, "That's wrong. That isn't the way to do that dance." I was so startled that I almost lost my place in the call, but I managed to keep going until the "promenade" and then had a few seconds to look around. There was a buxom matron, with outraged expression, repeating the charge! I said quickly, "This is one way to do it, madam, but there are

Photo by S. O. Fisher Studio, Lynchburg, Virginia

His daytime job is recruiting for the Navy, but Yeoman Robert Fakkema serves the Lynchburg home front as well. Several evenings a week he assists churches, the Y.W.C.A. and the city Recreation Department by leading folk games and dances for teachers, college students, business girls and many other adults.

half a dozen other ways."

There are really very few such incidents, though of course, there are many discussions, between dances, and after the program, in which servicemen from all points of the compass tell how they do this and that dance back home. When square dancers get into such discussions, it is fun. They are all members of an unofficial guild.

In a large town in Georgia I found the City Recreation Department directing a program in a housing center where, once a week, the community recreation building is given over to a square dance. The rather small hall was jammed—the orchestra was sawing away and the caller was dancing and calling at one and the same time. Here, as in many places in Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi, if local people are in charge, the dances are done in circle formation. They were having a wonderful time.

In San Antonio and Mineral Wells, Texas, numbers of local square dance groups turned up at our programs for servicemen. Most of these people were fifty and over and had been keeping up their dancing in clubs which were formed for this purpose. Some of the most delightful people I have ever met were these old-time square dancers. The Old Trail Club in San Antonio, Texas, is a good example of this. They were excited about the revival of interest and tremendously interested in our method of teaching beginners. They'd never seen it done that way.

On one occasion, in another Texas town, I had the privilege of putting on a program in which we had the participation of a gentleman well along in his seventies. His ability to do all the dances and literally outstay any of the army boys and local young women was something to behold! Of course he had the easy, sliding shuffling walk, in perfect rhythm, that is typical of the Texas dancers.

Several times I was asked to coach exhibition groups for special occasions, and it was amazing how quickly the young folks caught on. Half an hour's rehearsal of a simple dance, with each couple doing a different figure, produced excellent results. In San Angelo, Texas, we rehearsed eight couples Friday night for about half an hour. Saturday night every one of these dancers, soldiers and girls, turned up at the great Municipal Auditorium, and they did a square dance (two sets) as a part of a floor show for an audience of over a thousand servicemen and civilians. They scarcely made a mistake—certainly not a serious one!

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Recreation in the Mormon Church

By ELDON D. BRINLEY, Ed.D.
Formerly Director of Recreation
Board of Education
Great Neck, Long Island

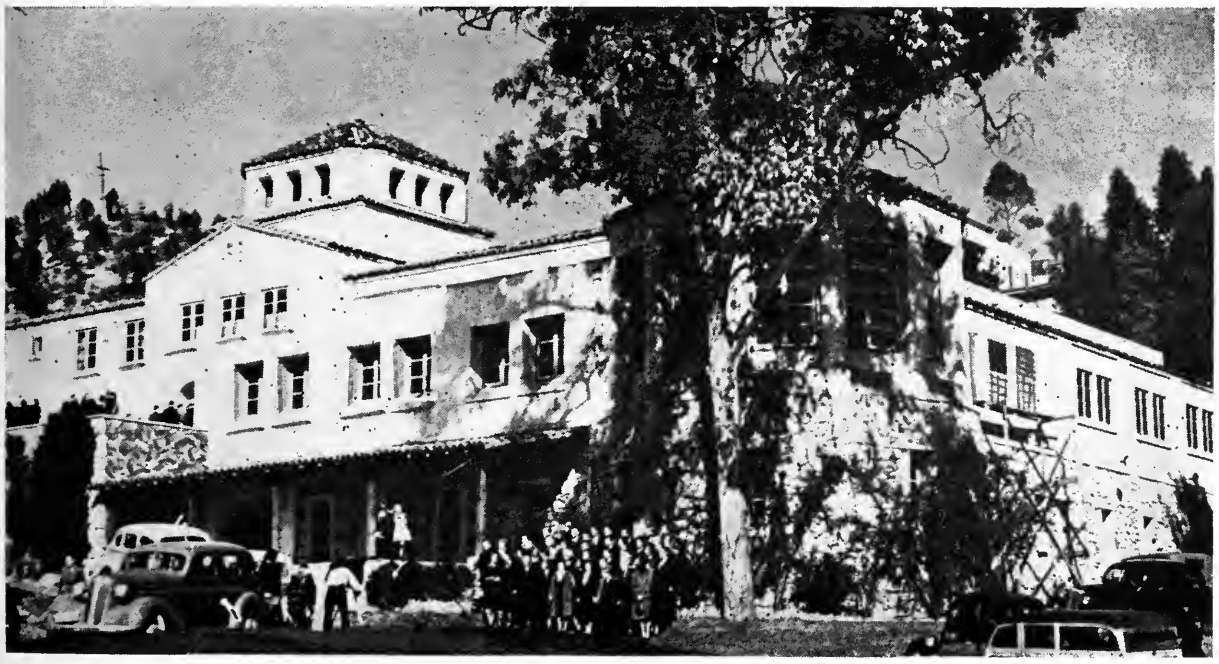
FOR MANY YEARS recreation has played an important part in the program of the Mormon Church, though relatively few people have realized the part played by this group in the recreational pattern of the nation, or the contribution it has made. The Mormons held dances in their chapels of worship as far back as 1840; early presidents of the Church viewed recreation as a fundamental need of their people and vigorously encouraged universal participation in wholesome leisure-time activities — and this at a time when popular amusements in America followed in the main the colonial period of puritanism. Though national interest in recreation was not to develop in earnest until the turn of the twentieth century, by 1875 the Mormon Church had progressed a long way on the road to its present highly centralized recreation program.

The Mormon Church has incorporated recreation into its very tenets and therefore devotes considerable time to educating its members recreationally. To the Church few pursuits are good or bad in themselves but are mainly dependent upon the accompanying environment. No recreation, therefore, is encouraged in unfavorable moral circumstances but takes place in positive surroundings. The Church maintains that wholesome activity can crowd out undesirable types. It emphasizes that recreational activity is conditioned upon three main factors: biological, social, and educational. Its recreation program is based upon seven so-called urges: social, dramatic, physical, rhythmic, linguistic, environmental, and constructive.

Organization and Administration

The entire Church membership is divided according to geographical areas into 146 units known as Stakes, each having a membership of from 1,000 to 10,000. In a similar manner, each Stake is partitioned into several units called Wards, of which there are 1,128 in the Church, each with a membership of between 200 and 1,500. This arrangement provides the basis for the organizational and administrative structure to function, and insures a line of authority from the general Church authorities to the lay members.

The responsibility for the recreation program of the entire



The beautiful Stake House which is located at Burbank, California, is typical of many of these bulldings

Courtesy Desert News Press

Church has been delegated to two of the several auxiliary organizations of the church; namely, the Mutual Improvement Associations (commonly abbreviated M.I.A.) and the Primary Association, the latter dealing with children between the ages of four to eleven years inclusive, and the former with all those twelve years of age and over. Close to 50,000 leaders are active in these two associations.

The authority to organize and coordinate the recreation program of the Church rests with a General Board of each of the agencies responsible. The line of administration is definite and synchronization complete, for the Ward Board, or smallest unit in touch with the lay members, is responsible to the Stake Board which in turn comes under the General Board's jurisdiction.

Facilities

A typical Mormon Church consists of two parts, a chapel and a recreation hall, usually in the same building. This recreation center consists generally of an open floor, stage with necessary fixtures, piano, and sufficient removable benches or chairs to accommodate a crowd, and is the nucleus for multifarious activity. It is used extensively and run according to schedule. There are 870 such halls in the Church, and more than eighty-two in Salt Lake City alone. The Church spends a considerable annual sum in their construction, remodeling, and repair.

Of course there are many other facilities available, such as camps, tennis courts, ball diamonds, picnic areas, and special amusement centers. The Church, however, looks at recreation from a community standpoint and tries to avoid duplication of municipal facilities to any great extent. It therefore uses in its program many public facilities such as schools, parks, and other buildings or areas, and in turn allows many outside agencies the use of its recreation halls.

Leadership and Personnel

Mormon recreation leadership is on a volunteer basis. There is not a single person in a Ward or Stake who receives remuneration for his services. Of the nearly 50,000 M.I.A. and Primary leaders, there are only six paid individuals, and these are working full time in the central offices of the Church at moderate compensation. This unorthodox system of lay leadership is a phenomenon difficult to understand by outsiders. How does the Church recruit such personnel? It is taken for granted. Children are indoctrinated from youth to serve, and such teachings, woven into the folkways of the people, stamp leadership as desirable and popular.

How is this army of part-time volunteers provided? By a systematic plan of continuous leadership training open to all. This consists, in the main, of definite theoretical and practical courses available throughout the Church plus enrollment in a university of experience. Mormon philosophy is built on the advocacy of lay leadership and versatility.

The Church believes in an experimental type of education and an organismic psychology in that a person learns "to do by doing." Every person is a leader in some capacity, and he shares his talents with others. Thus a deliberate attempt to give instruction in the field of pedagogy and leadership, coupled with the many actual opportunities to lead, develops individuals in a surprisingly efficient manner.

Finance

Since in the average non-Mormon recreational setup, better than fifty per cent of its funds usually goes into leadership costs, this Church, because of its volunteer leaders, represents the essence of frugality. Economy is the constant watchword.

With most of the facilities furnished by the Church, and leadership expense nonexistent, it is necessary to have only a small reserve on which to operate. This necessary amount is raised through a Ward budget plan. Under this system the Ward bishopric, three individuals empowered to administer the Ward affairs, estimate the total amount needed for a year. This sum is then prorated among the various members on the basis of ability to pay, some individuals being assessed little or nothing. Recreation receives its portion of these funds when collected, since its needs are included in the total Ward budget figure. Under this arrangement the recreation program becomes open to all at no further expense. On some occasions, however, there are small additional charges for such special features as refreshments. The family cost for such an extensive program is unbelievably low, and no person is ever turned away because of his financial status.

Public Relations

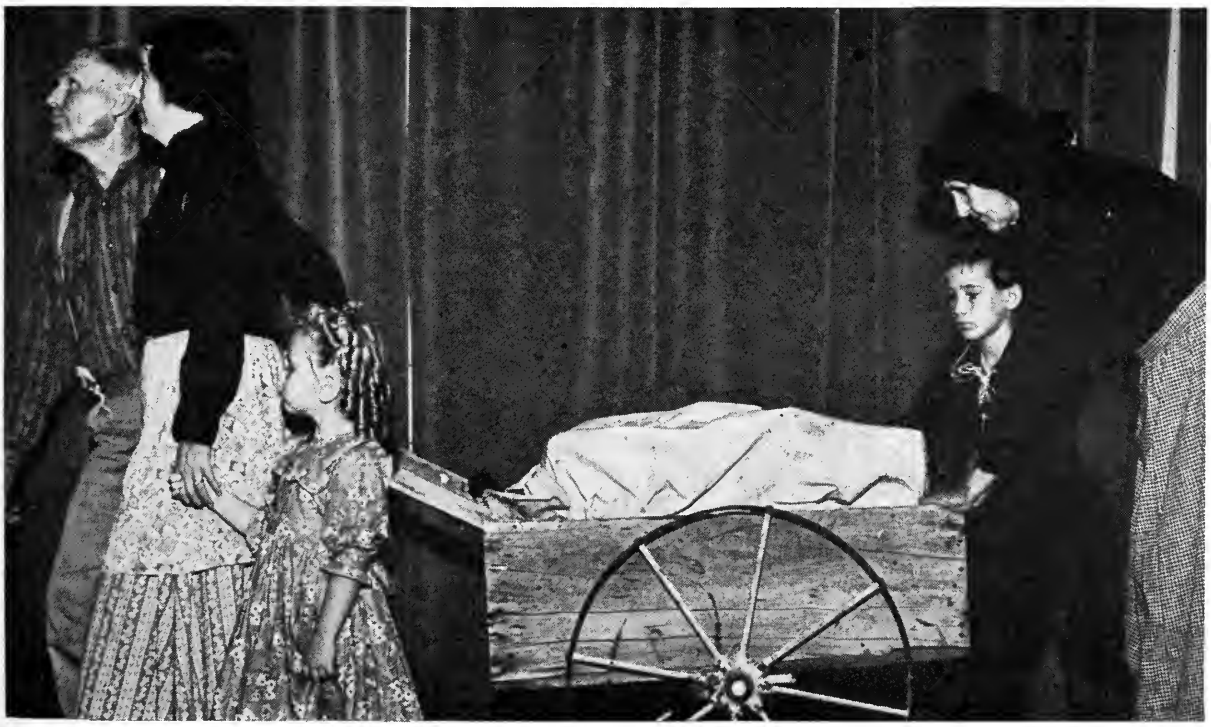
Public relations are maintained through a very effective method of using printed and nonprinted media. Leaflets, outlines, bulletins, pamphlets, magazines, posters, personal and general letters, and newspapers are utilized, as well as radio, recordings, and motion pictures. The main channel, however, is by word of mouth. To both members and nonmembers, a constant barrage of information comes from announcements, conferences, discussions, speeches, and is carried from person to person.

The Church attempts to develop high community morale and cooperation through keeping its public informed. As a result, not only does publicity precede events, but the papers generally pick up the news and emphasize résumé reports.

Program Operation

While it would be impossible in this space to describe fully the extensive Church recreation program, a brief of some items will give the reader a clearer general picture.

The Primary and M.I.A. hold at least one meeting every week which all Church members are invited to attend. This gathering is not only in itself of a recreational



Drama is one of the most popular activities of the program. Each year thousands of church members take part in plays and historical pageants.

nature, but it forms the basis for most of the leisure-time planning in the Church. Thus future activities are scheduled for presentation.

The Church attempts to sponsor a broad range of activities in physical, rhythmic, constructive, nature, linguistic, social, and dramatic interests. Certain of these fields are emphasized far more than others, with a view toward minimizing total community duplication and reaching those individuals who would otherwise have inadequate opportunity for expression because of age, background, or other reasons. Not only is a wide choice of activities advocated for everyone, but individuals are encouraged to participate extensively as well. Actual practice falls little below theoretical aims.

The M.I.A. usually meets on Tuesday evenings when interesting programs are presented. Here, part of the time, spectators may relax and enjoy themselves. Usually activity takes up a large part of the time, and there are things for all to do. If a person is unable to participate because of lack of skills, he is given instruction in the activity. There is a chance for everyone to learn how to dance, for instance, since fundamentals are taught at definitely scheduled times. The Primary functions in a similar manner with the children.

The weekly meeting becomes a center of learning and instruction, exemplified through participation. From this core radiate the various other activities which take place through the week or month. A three-act drama might be organized and presented by a group of players, or a basketball league itinerary might be drawn up.

The annual road show is an apt example. Each year every Ward M.I.A. in the Stake develops a fifteen-minute act, generally, though not necessarily, original. On the same evening in each Ward in a Stake, the various unit routines are produced. Through clever scheduling and minute organization, in a given Stake of eight Wards there would be, during the evening, identical programs in the eight Stake areas. Besides the large number of participants involved, few halls are able to accommodate the numerous spectators present.

Throughout the Church program excellence of performance is emphasized as well as mass participation. There is a system of friendly competition in which each Ward attempts to put forth its best performers. These in turn vie with those of other Wards in the Stake, those of the Stakes in turn compete, and eventually many of the activities reach Church-wide proportions. The Church sponsors a huge nation-wide basketball league with thousands participating weekly, and promotes a similar participation in the dance, culminating in a gigantic dancing festival each year in Salt Lake City. In 1941 the Ward produced more than 5,000 plays, with some 68,000 players. All of this presents more than a garden-variety incentive to participate, and one may excel in dramatics who has little taste of talent for athletics. Many of these activities have been modified or otherwise adjusted for the duration of the war.

The wide range of interests is developed by starting participants out young. Dancing skills begun in the Primary thus become a problem of perfecting and developing as the years roll by. The various Mormon meetings furnish a laboratory in which the many individuals can perform, for such gatherings almost always include activities of a recreational nature such as musical and dramatic numbers. Thus skills once learned have plenty of opportunity for expression, and the entire Church program is coordinated to follow through with this development. The Geneological Society, Relief Society, Sunday School, and Priesthood organizations also join in this recreational partnership and promotion. Other additional supplemental outlets for enjoyment, such as the Tabernacle Choir and Organ, radio, motion pictures, and Church-wide outings and gatherings exemplified by the annual Old Folks gathering, furnish examples of this mass achievement.

In Retrospect

The Church recreation program naturally has its problems and difficulties, but its progressive and introspective leaders welcome criticism, are open to suggestion, and strive continually for improvement. They are not afraid to try new ways, if they are better; nor are they reluctant to hold to the old-fashioned methods if results are effective.

Parts of the Mormon program might be considered unique, but uniqueness is only a different way of doing things. Several of their practices, while not entirely indigenous to the Church, at least have been time-tested by experience and found workable. Many similar organizations, after self-inventory and careful perusal of their present program, might increasingly find opportunities, as have the Mormons, to augment their voluntary leadership plan, incorporate a wider range and variety of program interests, institute more extensive participation, encourage finer excellence

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For War Workers and Their Families

By CHESTER EVANS

ROXANA, ILLINOIS, is a small community situated in an extensive war production area. The people are working almost exclusively on a twenty-four hour shift basis. Like other communities, it has schools, churches, Boy and Girl Scout groups, clubs and commercial entertainment.

A community building which houses the equipment and facilities to conduct an indoor recreation program provides for the recreational needs of both children and adults. Another public building has ample playground space and is utilized for other groups and activities. These buildings, together with the well-equipped playgrounds, provide the mechanics with which to work. Buildings, however, are of no value without the proper scheduling, organization of activities and use.

What should be the recreation worker's method in developing a program in a community where he or she does not know the problems of that community and has no background of the people to be served?

The first thought is to develop an all-inclusive recreation program which will fill the interest and enjoyment needs of all ages in the community. With this in mind, a recreation worker must approach the clubs, civic organizations, schools, churches, and individuals of his community to determine what is being accomplished, how he may cooperate, and what may be done in other lines. After this survey he will find that he has invaluable information which will serve as a basis for organizing and conducting future activities.

In Roxana no attention was being given to music, rhythmics, art, and hobby groups. There was also a definite lack of community social activities and a planned activity program for children of grade school age. Social dancing, a medium of natural expression that should be conducted in wholesome suroundings, was being overlooked.

The development of the program at Roxana was based on the fundamental principle of the right of all age groups to participate equally in social, athletic, arts and crafts, and music and dramatics activities. All leaders had had special training and their abilities were utilized only in the fields in which they were interested and trained. Taking inventory of the staff, we found we had instructors

This area for small children is operated by the Recreation Department as an aid to the many women working in war industries. It is open daily from 2:00 to 9:00 P. M., from Monday through Friday. In the evenings many parents gather here to play the games for which courts are provided.

to carry on programs in play schools, singing and rhythmics, crafts, and physical activities. These instructors were responsible for developing programs in their field and of interesting the community in their activity.

Members of the community were happy to act as advisors to aid the director and leaders in planning the activities of the various groups. Care was taken in the selection of these advisors, who were chosen not only for their special abilities but also as key members of the community representing the churches, schools, and clubs.

In one case, a member serving as advisor for crafts was the industrial arts instructor of the high school, while another serving as advisor for physical activities was the coach of the grade school. The president of the Women's Club was music advisor. These people proved very helpful through the suggestions and interest they brought to the program. Not only did individuals of the community assist as advisors but also as volunteer leaders.

A recreation program, to be successful, must grow to meet the needs of those it is to serve as well as utilize to full capacity the facilities, leadership, and equipment available. In starting out, the activities followed should fill the needs of the majority in all age group levels, branching out into the recreation fields to create new interests, new activities, and new experiences for the individual.

In following this pattern at Roxana, groups were first classified into play school, first grade, second grade, third grade, fourth grade, fifth grade, junior boys, junior girls, intermediate boys, intermediate girls, young men, young women, adult men, adult women. With this group classification, programs were developed in the social, physical, arts and crafts, music and dramatic fields.

An over-all plan for a season's program was sketched by the leader in each field for each group served. Forms were provided for the use of workers in preparing a detailed program for every meeting of each group in an activity.

On our playgrounds, every group whose members were old enough to function as a club elected officers and conducted regular meetings with the advisor of their group. They set up rules to be followed in their relationship with each other, other groups, and in the use and care of equipment, facilities, and supplies. These clubs provided a means of expressing ideas, wishes, and interests as well as aiding the instructors and director in handling problems of conduct.

Following this same plan with adult groups, leaders of the community were so organized that the director with little effort could develop functions on a community-wide plan. This provided the town with both social functions and a basis for quick mobilization of individuals to back the war effort.

Roxana was one of the first communities to be served by the St. Louis Mobile Blood Donor Unit. Arrangements were completed by the Director of Recreation with the Chapter Director of the Blood Donor Service to have the St. Louis Unit set up

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A marble tournament is one of the series of special activities provided for children living in the defense housing unit

Recreation Has a Job to Do

By R. T. HARBO

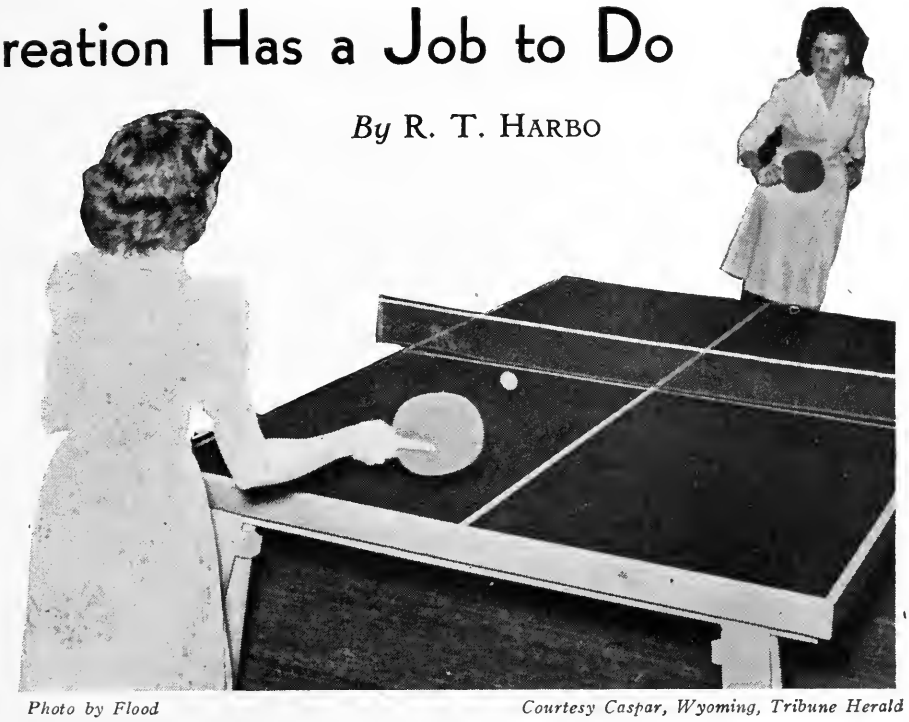

Photo by Flood *Courtesy Caspar, Wyoming, Tribune Herald*

YOUTH IS OUR greatest national asset. We dare not waste it. Yet we shall waste it in the most vicious way if we fail to provide the leadership and guidance which will enable our youth to develop properly, strong in body, alert in mind, and sensitive in spirit.

We need to recognize that on the home front we have a more or less continual war, a war between the forces of law and order and those persons who have evinced criminal tendencies. I want also to call to your attention the fact that the law enforcement agencies of the land are hard pressed in peace time in their efforts to combat crime. In time of war they have many additional duties, usually with accompanying decrease in personnel, so that the load upon them is tremendous. For that reason I say that crime prevention programs on the part of all good citizens and organizations are needed now more than ever before.

I would also remind you of the fact, lest we become complacent with reference to the existence of crime in the United States, that we do have in this country a grossly excessive amount of crime. . . . That recreation has a job to do is clearly indicated by the large amount of juvenile crime. The question of what is the extent of this delinquency is one which is distinctly very difficult to answer with any degree of exactitude.

What Are the Causes of Delinquency?

We all know that the causes of crime are multitudinous, but let's devote just a moment's consideration to the question: What are the causes for the present upswing in juvenile delinquency and crime?

The following is a summarization of the reasons given recently by a number of police chiefs, juvenile court judges and probation officers: First, the breakdown of family ties and other domestic troubles; second, adults working regular hours, with children not receiving needed home supervision; third, many juveniles are employed. They are earning more money than they have been accustomed to or probably ever hoped for at this stage of their lives, and as a result they are doing more drinking and running around late at night. Fourth, numerous gangs of juveniles have been formed, engaged too frequently in unwholesome activities. And fifth, the general laxity on the part of adults makes a great difference.

What are the specific reasons given by youth themselves? We find they fall into two main categories: First, the lack of adequate, wholesome recreation facilities and opportunities; second, the nonobservance and nonenforcement of laws on the part of adults.

In the press from time to time, we frequently observe editorial utterances emphasizing the fact that the teachings of materialism must be replaced by the God-given laws of morality if we are to reduce crime. Of course it is widely accepted that in attempting to combat crime we should make an attempt to stop it at its source;

Some extracts from an address made at the Ninth Annual Chicago Recreation Conference on November 12, 1943, by Inspector Harbo, Assistant to J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Copies of the Proceedings of the Conference are available from the Municipal Reference Library, City Hall, Chicago 2, at 75 cents.

that is, to undertake crime prevention activities. Certainly the problem of crime committed by youth is so vast and so complex that if it is to be adequately met and solved, it calls for the combined resources of the entire community. Certainly it seems safe to predict that unless substantial improvements occur, based upon what has happened in the past, we can say that within the next few years hundreds of thousands of boys and girls of school age will be enrolled in the army of crime.

Points in a Community-Wide Crime Prevention Program

I would like to outline very briefly some suggestions which I believe would constitute important points in a community-wide crime prevention program. They don't all deal specifically with the recreational phase of the work, naturally, but you will note that recreation activities occupy a prominent place in this general outline, which is as follows:

1. Study the local problem of delinquency and crime. Define it as clearly as possible. Find out whether there are increases or decreases in the particular community under study. Although we have, let us say, a 40 per cent increase throughout the nation on the average, it may be that in one community we may have 100 per cent or more increase; whereas in another more fortunate community we may have a decrease.

2. Establish a coordinating program which will tend to develop cooperation and coordination of the programs and activities of the several official and private agencies which seek to direct the activities of youth along constructive channels. That is very important because in every community we have a large number of agencies, some official, some private. We need to get maximum results with what we have. We need to reduce to a minimum the amount of duplication, overlapping or competition.

3. Ascertain whether or not there has been a population increase in the community and, if so, whether there has been an accompanying proportionate increase in the police personnel.

4. The local law enforcement agency ought to have a special crime prevention unit or at a minimum assign the most capable personnel to handle this type of work.

5. Study and ascertain the high delinquency areas and then check recreational facilities to see whether or not the recreational program is really being concentrated in those areas.

6. Work for the strengthening and possible expansion of programs of agencies which provide wholesome spare-time activities for youth, such as: schools, recreation departments of the local government, churches, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., boys' clubs, girls' clubs, and other similar agencies.

7. Seek to re-emphasize the character-building functions of schools and churches. We need to revitalize the conviction that there is a definite distinction and difference between what is right and what is wrong. With reference to the field of recreation, certainly it helps to develop this conviction if we get the boys and girls when they are participating in competitive sports to play strictly according to the rules.

8. Make a survey of the part-time work performed by boys and girls of school age, to see that it is suited to their ages and capacities and that the hours are not excessive.

I want to emphasize also the notion of encouraging thrift because these boys and girls who are working are earning more money that they ever hoped to earn at this stage in their lives. If they spend that money, they are going to develop habits and tastes that they will not be able to meet with postwar incomes, which may lead some persons to resort to unlawful means of satisfying those tastes and habits.

"The twofold job of recreation is to help build healthy individuals—healthy in body, mind, and spirit, and to help develop useful citizens who appreciate keenly the advantages of our form of government, and who are eager, willing, and capable of contributing their full share to its preservation. Recreation has a real job to do!"

9. Check on the problem of truancy. The migration of families resulting from economic conditions contribute to truancy, and truancy is one of the first steps down the path leading to other more serious acts of delinquency and crime.

10. Encourage boys and girls over the age of compulsory attendance laws to continue their education. The temptation of easy money might cause some of them to decide to defer their education temporarily. Of course, the danger is that they will not return and resume their educational training, and there is further the observation to be noted that easy money is too frequently spent unwisely.

11. Encourage church groups to intensify their efforts to increase the number of boys and girls brought into Sunday schools; and, of course,

emphasis there should be placed on reaching those persons most in need of the program. The same is true with reference to the various young peoples' leagues sponsored by the various denominations.

12. Impress upon parents through parent-teacher associations and other groups the importance of home discipline, guidance and control, especially during this war period. Regardless of their natural confidence in their children, parents should analyze the problem as it pertains to their own home, take an inventory of the amount of unsupervised time on the part of their children, and make sure it is spent in wholesome activity.

I should like to mention at this point that some time ago I read of a west coast city which has started a program of study groups for parents of adolescent and young children. When the parent or parents of a delinquent child are brought before the judge charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor, part of the disposition of that case consists in the order by the judge that the parents attend a series of study groups. The plan calls for eight sessions, meeting once a week for a period of eight weeks. There the parents receive lectures from first a representative of the city legal department concerning the legal responsibility of the parent for the child; second, a lecture from a representative of the school system concerning the educational responsibility; and third, a similar lecture from a representative of the recreation department; fourth, one from the churches; and so on, to complete a well-rounded course of lectures and instructions for the parents.

I recall that the account indicated that this series of study groups was also open to parents who wanted to attend voluntarily, and that the number who did so vastly exceeded the number of those requested to do so by the judge.

13. Carry on a program generally for the purpose of maintaining high standards in the local police department, with the local prosecutors and with the local courts. If any one of those three links is weak, then the administration of criminal laws in a community will fall short of the ideal.

And finally, it should be noted and underscored that any such program should be a *continuing* one in nature.

Youth needs urgently all the wholesome recreational opportunities an awakened community can provide. Out-of-door life is one of these.

Crime conditions in the United States indicate to me very clearly the need for moral and spiritual reawakening. The philosophy that anything is all right if you can get by with it needs to be definitely rejected and thrown out of American thinking and living. We need to guard against the notion being entertained by our youth that they can get by with performance which is short of honest effort. I think we need to set higher standards of performance for our youth and then give them more encouragement to attain those standards.

Make Recreation Challenging!

Recreation activities should challenge youth and cause them to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. Youth is vigorous, energetic and inquisitive, and the recreation program must be suited to its needs. Recreation leaders have a strong influence over youth, sometimes greater than that of parents and teachers. This, of course, brings a great responsibility. Among other things, recreation leaders should bring to the attention of youth the importance of the kind of record they are making. Each boy's record, good, bad, or indifferent, is his individual responsibility, and it will, of course, have a vital effect upon his future career. I am speaking not only with reference to conduct which is so definitely antisocial as to be labeled criminal in character, but also concerning such matters as a good scholastic record, promptness, courtesy, reliability and other everyday virtues.

Recreation leaders should warn young people that they jeopardize their future careers if they are thoughtless, careless and indifferent as to the quality of the records they are making today, just because it is easy to get a job at the present time.

The predominance of youth in crime is certainly not a pleasant picture. It falls far short of the ideal of American citizenship. For that reason I believe we need to stress more today than ever before the fact that our form of government not only bequeaths rights and privileges upon its citizens, but also carries with it duties and obligations which must be accepted and fulfilled by each individual.

I realize that you can't preach to young people and expect them to react favorably to such thoughts as I have just expressed. But at the same time I know that youth is fundamentally idealistic, and I believe that there is plenty of opportunity to use illustrations from current events to get these ideas over—incidental to the recreation program.

I know personally and very intimately the member of a crew of one of our Flying Fortresses which is out of the country, and I know from discussion with him of the highly developed and keen sense of obligation each crew member has toward all the others. Those fellows individually and collectively would not want to go up in that Flying Fortress on a mission unless they had full confidence in the fact that each other member of that crew felt fully his obligation to the group. That is the sort of feeling we need to develop, and we can make some contribution toward that goal through our recreation programs.

The home, the school, and the church must be expected to play major roles in bringing about improvement in the conditions to which I have referred. Homes worthy of the name will do so, but unfortunately some homes have failed, with the result that all of the constructive influences of the community must endeavor to provide the youth from such homes with the necessary guidance. The urgent need for all of the wholesome recreational opportunities which an awakened community can provide should be obvious even to those who run as they look. This is true in peacetime. In time of war the force of circumstances is such as to multiply the need.

Unforunately, in most cities the need far exceeds the recreational opportunities available to youth. The least that can be expected in each city is that maximum use be made of all existing facilities and that emphasis be placed upon providing a high type of personnel to lead and guide our youth in their use of the facilities.

"After the last war there began to be an increasing amount of talk about Youth, the Younger Generation, and Young People. And after this war there will be even more such talk. . . . Nothing is more depressing than perpetual youth, and if the youth of any generation become self-conscious about their youngness *per se,* so that they tend to think of themselves absurdly as members of a Youth Class, they risk never growing up.

"All of us, always, are in a state of preparation for what is ahead. So let us permit neither flattery nor scolding to cause us to be 'frozen' on the level of any of our ages. . . .

"A youth is only somebody not yet old, and an old person is somebody who might have gone further if he'd got started sooner."—*Booth Tarkington* in an editorial in *The American School Weekly News,* January 3, 1944.

Navy Men List Recreation Preferences

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, over 2,000 questionnaires were sent out by the Welfare and Recreation Department, U. S. Naval Receiving Barracks, Shoemaker, California, to find out the type of recreation activities desired by the men there. The questionnaires were returned by 1,107 men who checked the activities they liked in six different recreational classifications.

Major and Minor Team Games

Basketball	682
Baseball	650
Basketball Type Contest	189
Softball	644
Kickball	48
Volley Ball	84
Football	544
Touch Football	358
Six-Man Football	156
Soccer	108
Dodgeball	124
Boxball	26
Farball (Stickball)	67
Track	252
Relays	110
Country Run	84
Obstacle Course Run	32
Hiking	122
Military Drill	65

Social Activities

Social Games	134
Dancing	716
Picnics	402
Parties	412

Individual Sport Contests

Swimming—Naval Aquatics	326
Boxing	326
Wrestling	172
Hand-to-Hand Contests	42
Judo	134
Gymnastics	94
Tumbling	102
Stunts	76
Weight Lifting	128
Fencing	52
Navy P. F. Tests	32

Music

Quartets	60
Instrumental	104
Glee Clubs	106
Sing Song	220

Recreation Sport Contests

Tennis	312
Paddle Tennis	118
Hand Tennis	92
Paddle Handball	91
Handball	149
Badminton	182
Deck Tennis	73
Bowling	666
Horseshoes (Quoits)	350
Roller Skating	501
Clock Golf	48
Box Hockey	46

Recreation Table Games

Table Tennis	160
Pool	884
Carrom	43
Billiards	207
Cards (Bridge, etc.)	222
Checkers	277
Chess	100
Darts	176
Shuffleboard	155
Miscellaneous Games	56

"We Need Each Other"

By JANE HOLMAN

Mrs. Holman, who serves as Chairman of the Community Activities Committee of Webster Groves, Missouri, tells of the splendid work the committee has done to provide a recreation program for this community of 20,000 people.

WHEN SONS of Webster Groves, Missouri, families got into trouble and had to be punished by the law, this well-to-do community had a problem of juvenile delinquency on its hands. That was more than a year ago. Even though most of the parents argued that they could look out after their teen age children, the need for something tangible was apparent.

It was then that the city officials and the mayor got together to discuss the situation. They realized that a recreational program was requisite not only for juniors but for all age groups—especially when summer came and gas restrictions made it impossible to drive the children to the country for week ends and the longer vacations in Michigan as had been done formerly.

The task of setting up such a program fell to the lot of the Community Activities Committee. The Mayor warned, "It will be the toughest assignment you ever tackled," and the Committee found his words a gross understatement. Disregarding obstacles, however, Committee members got busy.

No funds were available for the purpose so volunteer personnel had to be drafted from willing workers and a council of helpful directors was set up. Although some well-meaning folks thought paid leadership should come in and take over, others were of a mind to put their shoulders to the wheel and direct their own civic recreation project.

A thirteen point program was under way by the time school closed. Webster Groves Day was declared a holiday and the town turned out for a colorful parade to the high school field where events lasted all day.

In the big armory, booths displayed what the town had grown, made, and done. The results of invitations to exhibit everything portable were amazing. At day's end a fine program of home talent was presented out of doors with the Mayor as master of ceremonies. Thus was inaugurated a broad, free, civic program and a talent bureau—all catalogued.

Playgrounds were opened in the schools and mothers volunteered as leaders. When the session ended, a big picnic was given for all at the town's great open tract of land known as "Forty Acres."

An outdoor stage was needed. What a problem! A sectional wooden structure was proposed. No wood. Still the Committee did not lose hope. Finally the city engineers came through with a plan to use cement which was on hand. The day the workers waded knee deep through tough weeds to lay out the locations was a happy occasion. Now real productions and dances could be given.

Until the large 30′ x 50′ stage was ready, firemen spread tarpaulins for the teen-agers to dance on. But what about seats? Well, the Committee thought fast and asked the school officials to lend them the movable bleachers for summer. An architect designed and helped to construct a pretty trellis for the stage.

July 5th was the opening day. At noon, nothing much had been done. Poles had to be set for the floodlights which were borrowed from the firemen. Long tiers of seats needed to be put up. Grounds had to be cleared. The Committee phoned the city hall, men left their desks, and with all available city laborers, went to work with a will. They climbed poles on ladders and by 6:00 P. M. even the orchestral lights were ready. City papers sent their press photographers out.

A grand march, led by city officials and their wives and the town's dancing teacher, opened the performance. Later the public showed its appreciation by dancing gaily 'til late hours. High school sound equipment furnished record music. From then on dancing was a twice weekly feature. High school boys, members of the Operators Club, managed the musical end of the program. Parents came in large numbers to watch, and many who had

"Community planners can take heart in the knowledge that much of what we call juvenile delinquency is a wholly natural thing. It is not like some mysterious malady for which we must find a new and striking remedy. The greater part of our troubles can be cured before they start to become real troubles by the use of tried and true home remedies, with the ordinary dose doubled or trebled when necessary." — *Austin H. MacCormick* in *Survey Midmonthly*, March 1944.

not danced in years were soon on the dance floor.

Dramatic productions, orchestral concerts, and dance revues were also presented. No fee is ever charged for anything given by the Community Activities Committee. Soft drinks were dispensed by the boys and girls, and money from this source constitutes a small fund which provides decorations for winter indoor dances. Small children gathered bottles from under the bleachers —and collected five cents for every twenty they found. This money, too, went into the fund. Even the town's own solid bicycle chain served to anchor the needed cooler to a tree.

When a store room and dressing rooms were needed, another problem faced the Committee. No lumber was available for building. Much second-hand stage equipment including footlights, floodlights, spots, sykes, and frames was bought. But still, in their Committee basement, the equipment was too far away.

One day, however, they noticed an old tumbledown WPA office on wheels way back in the city yards. It belonged to the city engineer who, because of its frailty, had not transported it to his farm where he had use for it. The Committee dared to ask for this and it was given generously while council members wanted to know how they'd ever get the old swayback out to Forty Acres — but their spirits would not be dampened.

A tractor started it along its way and eventually pulled up behind the stage — all in one piece. New shingles were added and a platform or ramp built to take the borrowed piano on and off stage. Lights were installed by a good-natured neighbor who took over the entire lighting system and did a professional job for productions, begging and cajoling dealers for material.

Supper dances were enjoyed by adult groups and square dancing took its turn with costumed, well-trained men and women teaching. Handbills were distributed for large events. A poster studio in the cool basement was operated by boys and girls who designed artistic announcements for all events. The town's weekly newspaper, *Webster Groves News Times,* continues to give the programs much front page space and thus the simple advertising is done.

With the outdoor season ended, the Committee turned its activities to indoor events. The very successful athletic league, which had twenty-seven softball teams playing on three fields, gathered basketball church teams for winter games. The softball team winners received trophies presented by the city at an evening's gala meeting in the city hall. A minister and a Catholic

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Webster Groves, whose recreational history is related here, is working successfully through a volunteer committee to accomplish its objectives. Its near-by neighbor, St. Louis, is tackling its problems through the Division of Recreation of the Board of Education.

As one effort to set up wholesome recreation centers for teen-agers, the Division of Recreation has opened 30 school buildnigs and plans to open 20 more as rapidly as possible. While a few of the centers are of the general community center type, the majority are athletic centers serving boys 12 years of age and over. Two centers are open afternoons for girls' volley ball, and two provide dancing for teen-agers once a week. In the spring about 4,000 boys and girls attended the centers. (Information from *The Journal of Health and Physical Education,* May.)

Wrestling—A Swiss National Sport

IN THE SWISS MOUNTAINS, where the conditions of life are primitive and hard, and strong hands and tempered muscles are a necessity, the male population is fond of strenuous sports and games which, for the most part, consist of sheer tests of strength. On Sundays the men often visit the local inns and demonstrate their strength by finger-gripping and "barging," perhaps the most primitive form of friendly combat. Very often these informal meetings result in the planning of a match.

In the Alpine valleys, where cattle rearing and dairy farming are the only livelihood of the inhabitants, wrestling has been the traditional form of contest since time immemorial. "Schwingen," as it is called, has rules of its own which are quite different from those in force internationally. The match takes place in a meadow where a sawdust covered ring is marked out for the purpose. The contest is refereed by old, experienced wrestlers. Special wrestling trousers are slipped on over the ordinary ones and strapped around the loins. The two opponents are matched according to size and skill, and the contest begins with a friendly handshake. Fairness and self-control are a point of honor.

After the two fighters have "engaged" by gripping each other by the trouser belts in the small of the back with the right hand, and the right trouser leg with the left hand, the umpire gives the signal for starting the bout. Each wrestler then tries to swing the other into the air (hence the name "Schwingen"), with the object of getting him down with his back flat on the ground. Often when the opponents are evenly matched they try to overpower each other by using the most varied kinds of "short" and "long" throws, overthrows, and numerous other tricks. But since the only permissible grip is on the leather trousers, the match may last a long time. Suddenly one of the wrestlers will begin to tire and is overpowered by a skillful, unexpected throw. The highest number of points obtained decides the winner of the match; the number of rounds won, the skill of the pected throw. and the tactics of attack and defense being considered in the count.

At national wrestling festivals the King of Wrestlers is crowned with a laurel wreath by the Queen of the Maids of Honor.

At a May Sunday festival and wrestling match in the Sertig Valley near Davos, Switzerland

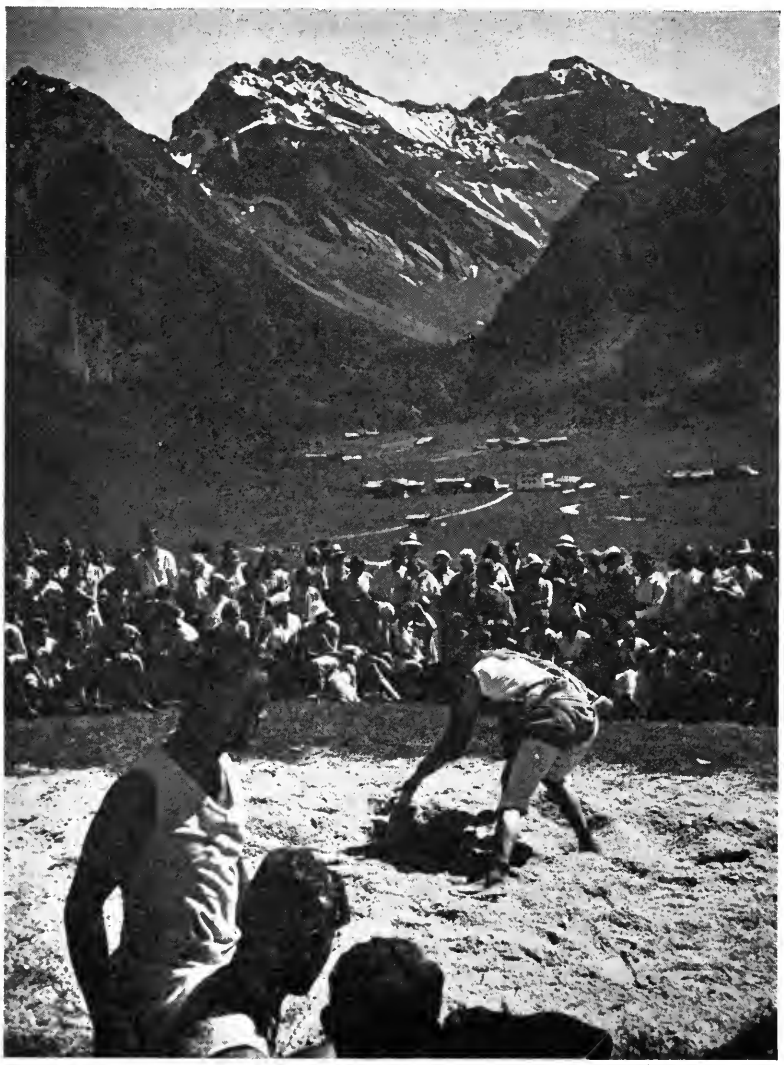

Photo by E. Meerkämper

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

BIRDS. "The Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Birds," by Leon Augustus Hausman, Ph.D. Illustrated by Jacob Bates Abbott, pp. i-xx + 541. Halcyon House, New York. 1944. $1.98. Alphabetically arranged.

Burroughs, John, (April 3, 1837-April 3, 1921). It was Burrough's Day in Toledo on April 12, 1918, when the Pietro statue was presented to the children of the city. Willoughby, Ohio, has a Burrough's Nature Club for the conservation of Ohio's woods and wildlife. The Club is in its twenty-ninth year and was recently introduced to the largest slippery elm in the United States—15 feet 5 inches in circumference at 4½ feet from the ground.

Films. Castle Distributing Corp., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20. Free educational 16 mm. sound films. Send for a catalog. Now available: "Ever Since Eden," a historical film on America's great contribution to food — the tomato. Time—forty minutes.

Gedge Harmon

"Garden Flowers in Color," by Daniel J. Foley. The Macmillan Company, New York. 319 pp., illus. $1.98.

Gardening. "Victory Garden Surplus." U. S. Government Printing Office, 1943. (Folder—16 pp.) Illustrated. (AWI—59.) Five cents per copy, $1 per 100 copies. Single copies free from Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Gardening. "A Victory Gardener's Handbook on Insects and Diseases." U. S. Department of Agriculture. 30 pp., illus., paper, ten cents. Misc. Publication No. 525.

Lumber. "This Fascinating Lumber Business," by Stanley F. Horn. Bobbs-Merrill, New York. 328 pp., illus. $3.75.

Nature Guides—Women. The Mt. Tom commission of Holyoke, Massachusetts, has elected Patricia Jennings and Frances Gillotti as nature guides for the summer of 1944. They are juniors at Massachusetts State College and are majoring in nature recreation leadership.

Nature Recreation. According to a recent survey made by *Popular Science* magazine, more adults in the United States have some sort of a nature hobby than any other one subject. Is that true in your community? If so, how does it affect your program?

Plants. "Edible Wild Plants," by Oliver Perry Medsger. Complete identifications. The Macmillan Company, New York. Illus. $3.50.

Roadside Beauty. Persons observed cutting trees and dumping trash along the roads are vandals. Highway departments give much study to the program of planting. Because of the manpower shortage patriotic citizens should protect their own property by reporting vandalism to the State Highway Commission.

Trail Rangers of America, Michael, Illinois, is for homeless children who are established in a year-round camp and wilderness area with subsistence farming as a background. The motto is "Freedom in a Prepared Environment." Rev. George Link is the camp Father. "The greatest fine art of the future will be the making of a comfortable living from a small piece of land."—*Abraham Lincoln.*

Tree Planting School. Legislation passed in Indiana in 1941 requires each company stripping land for coal to plant an acreage equal to that stripped yearly. Fifty mine operators and members of the State Division of Forestry were welcomed to Linton, Indiana, by the Mayor on February 24, 1944. The meeting was held in the new clubhouse of the Linton Conservation Club.

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Britain Welcomes the Americans

By DAVID CUSHMAN COYLE

This article originally appeared in the November 1943 issue of *The Outpost*, a magazine which is published by Americans in Britain and which represents their personal opinions.

THE ENGLISH people often regard themselves as cold and inhospitable, and they don't like to be that way. Their sons who are training for the Air Force in America write home about the wonderful hospitality of the Americans and Canadians, and wish the home folks could do as well for the American soldiers in England. Actually the home folks are not as shy and awkward as they think. They have done an immense amount to make the Americans feel at home. Few Americans know how much, because the effort takes so many different forms in different places.

Even before the U.S. troops arrived in force, town committees were organized all over the area where they were to be stationed to provide for welcome and hospitality. At the beginning they asked families to invite Americans to dinner and thousands of invitations poured in. The Bedford committee, for instance, received 500 invitations in the first week. This plan had the advantage of not requiring any special equipment, but it did not work as well as expected. The Americans turned out to be shy about ringing a strange doorbell and announcing themselves as dinner guests—to the rather pained surprise of the British, who thought they themselves were the only shy people in the world. Another influence, according to some of the Americans, was the excellent pamphlet on England that was handed to them on the way over, which explained the rationing system and warned them about eating up the food of private families. They were much more ready to accept billets, and the Bedford committee soon had a list of homes where an American could be put up overnight. In the meantime the committee obtained three rooms over a store on the main street and started to serve coffee and sandwiches. The Americans promptly made themselves at home by penetrating into the kitchen, washing dishes, and making sandwiches. Then they got up dances at their camps, and the Women's Voluntary Service supplied girls in batches of thirty or more at a time. From that point on, the dining out problem solved itself by natural processes.

This is only one example of how a community worked out the methods for making the Americans feel welcome. The methods in each locality, and the degree of success, depended on the local resources and leadership, and in part on the understanding and cooperation of the local American command.

Abounding Hospitality

All the British service clubs, the Women's Voluntary Service, Salvation Army, Y.M.C.A., Church Army, Sailors' Society, and other canteens have offered a welcome to Americans. More than thirty British Army, Navy, and Air Force canteens were opened especially for Americans. In fifteen places in East Anglia, where there were not enough Americans to justify locating American Red Cross canteens, British organizations have made special provision to take care of Americans in the British canteens. About half of these canteens are operated by the British Y.M.C.A.; the others are under the W.V.S., Salvation Army, Church Army and Catholic Women's League.

Where there are many American troops, the American Red Cross has been encouraged to open canteens, often with large sleeping accommodation for men on leave. The British authorities lend the buildings, renovate them, and supply the furniture, all without cost to the Red Cross. This is regarded as a kind of reciprocal lend-lease, but no account is kept of it in money. Buildings and furniture are not to be reckoned in money, because they are priceless in England and cannot be obtained at all except by priority.

British children are doing much to cement the friendship of the two countries. At Christmas time many Americans were too shy to accept invitations to dinner in British homes (last Christmas there were fifty invitations for every American soldier in Britain), but they attended Christmas parties staged by Rotary Clubs and other organizations. Some of the Army posts gave parties for English children, and a wonderful time was had by all. These children's parties probably did as much as anything else to bring Americans into relations of personal friendship with English families. Many English schools are studying America; sometimes

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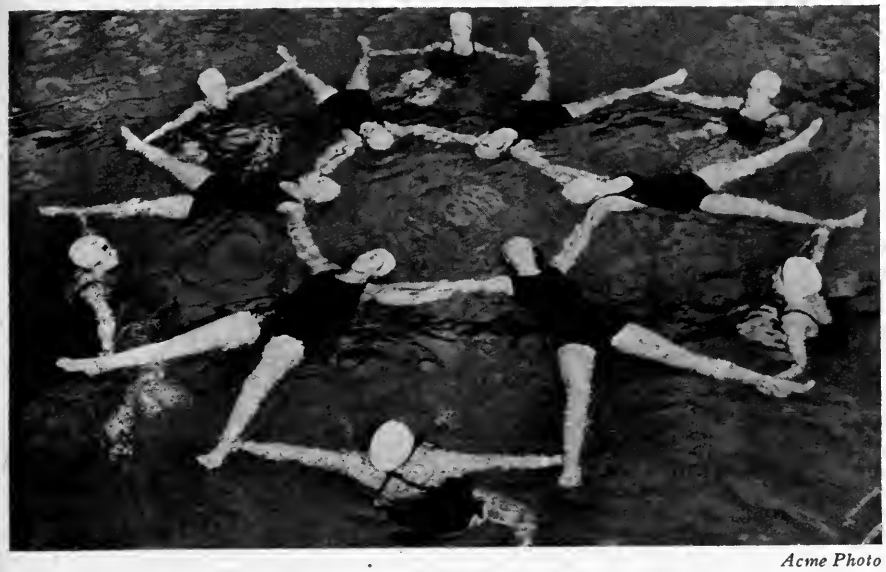
WORLD AT PLAY



Acme Photo

Swimming Pool Donated to Waterloo

OTTO A. SCHOITZ of Waterloo, Iowa, has presented to the city in memory of his wife, Charlotte L. Schoitz, a $10,000 municipal swimming pool. The pool and adjacent grounds will constitute Schoitz Memorial Park. The pool is 240 feet long and 90 feet wide.

Rotary Sponsors Youth Conference

THE National Recreation Association was represented at the 1944 Youth Conference sponsored by Rotary International May 5th in New York City with Daniel F. Lincoln, chairman of the Rotary Youth Committee, presiding. Also represented were service clubs including Kiwanis, Optimist, Exchange and Zonta; and organizations serving youth including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys' Clubs of America, Future Farmers, Camp Fire Girls, 4-H and Y.M.C.A.

The first point considered was how better cooperation can be secured between the united service clubs in the various cities and the agencies which serve youth. There was unanimous agreement that a greater effort should be made to give concrete information to the leaders in the service clubs in the localities about what is being done and what is needed.

An Anniversary Banquet

IN APRIL of this year the Pasadena, California, Department of Recreation completed its twenty-one years of service. The Executive Council arranged an anniversary banquet to pay honor to the nine presidents who have served during the twenty-one years. Honor awards were presented and entertainment was provided by the young people participating in the activities of the Department of Recreation.

"Look at Your Neighborhood"

THE New York City Museum of Modern Art recently featured an exhibition series of posters entitled "Look at Your Neighborhood," which stressed the role of the individual layman and citizen in neighborhood planning. Posters enumerated the facilities necessary in a good community, and urged citizens to study the local problems, examine their resources and plan to use them wisely in "building for better living."

From Somewhere in New Guinea

CORPORAL Murray Geller, who in 1940 provided us with two games, Shuffle Bocci and Ringo, directions for which were sent out through the Recreation Bulletin Service, writes that they proved the most popular games on the transport going across. Says Corporal Geller:

"The chaplain in charge of ship's recreational activities had copies of the bulletins for future voyages. We found that Shuffle Bocci completely supplanted the older Shuffleboard, possibly because the game is much simpler to mark out, requiring only two large circles. Incidentally, we play Shuffle Bocci (we changed the name to Shuffleoff) with four round-as-possible coconuts, two painted green

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Diamond Products are on every fighting front; in every branch of the service. The Diamond Calk Horseshoe Company, on the war front as well as on the home front, will continue to do its part until this tremendous struggle is brought to a successful conclusion.
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and two red. Of course the game would be better with heavy wooden balls instead of coconuts which contrarily refuse to grow perfectly round!"

Community Buildings as War Memorials—The Commonwealth Council for National Fitness, Commonwealth of Australia, at its seventh session held at Canberra passed a resolution urging upon all public authorities that war memorials should take the form of community recreation centers or similar institutions.

Dogwood for Wheeling's Highways—In the annual dogwood campaign, the Wheeling, West Virginia, Landscape Commission ordered five hundred dogwood trees to be held in the nursery in Oglebay Park for future use in planting along the highways. The dogwood campaign is sponsored by the Wheeling Garden Center, whose aim is to promote projects for the beautification of homes, parks and highways in the city. This marked the third year of the campaign, and, as in other years, 10,000 dogwood trees were made available to the local citizens.

From Playground to Pub

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO someone praised the enclosure of common lands which had been going on in England. An indignant person replied in a letter which *The Times* republished last week after 100 years.

The unknown, but righteous man, wrote:

"I remember men, boys, and girls, each in their way, playing happily on the common lands. . . . Cricket, quoits, football, and many other manly sports were then enjoyments within reach of the poorer orders of society, and brought them in contact with the classes above them—a state of things in which each found advantage.

"What are the amusements of the poor now, and where alone are they to be had? The men are reduced to four-corners, bowls, dominos, cards, and dice; and the only places in which room is to be found even for such games are the public-houses and beer-shops. . . .

"Eats, balls, stumps, footballs, quoits, &c., and the games in which they are used, are almost unknown to the boys of the present generation; for cricket, hockey, and such like amusements no place is to be found; they are superseded by marbles, dumps, and other games. . . .

"By enclosures of common lands the old English games have been destroyed. . . . And then persons wonder that crimes till lately unknown in England spring forth as the fruit of such benefits conferred on the poor."

Things to Do in Dayton—Addressed to newcomers of Dayton, Ohio, and with a special message from the Mayor urging new residents to enjoy the spare-time facilities offered, *Things to Do in Dayton*, a booklet prepared by the OCD, offers a complete listing of leisure-time facilities and opportunities. The guide also contains a list of schools and churches with their addresses.

"American Storybook"—Under this title the Los Angeles, California, Recreation Department is giving the city's children human interest stories about famous Americans to balance their present radio diet so heavily loaded with lone gunmen, superflashes, and horror thrillers. The stories, written and narrated by Laura C. Swartz, are broadcast every Saturday morning at 9:45 over Station KMTR. Little-known but character-revealing incidents in the lives of such great men and women of America as Florence Kelly, Justice

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Abigail Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Lee, and General Robert E. Lee are related in a manner which appeals not only to children but to youth and adults. The stories have captured the interest of a growing circle of juvenile listeners and have won the approbation of parents, school teachers, and recreation leaders.

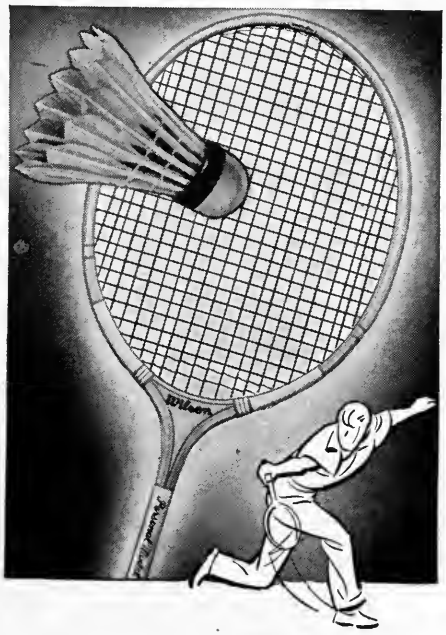
Buffalo Volunteers—The official bulletin of the New York State War Council for February 12, 1944, reports that in Buffalo 13,535 volunteers have been trained for service with recreation and youth agencies.

Texas City Creates Community Forest—Texas has joined the march of states in the establishment of town or community forests. One of the latest Texas communities to create a community forest on worn out farm land is Palestine. In April 1943 the Kiwanis Club of Palestine initiated a community-wide campaign and enlisted support of all local agencies—service clubs, parent-leader associations, school and church groups. In January of this year the campaign was brought to a successful conclusion with a tree planting festival on the 900-acre tract acquired for the forest. At the close of the formal program individuals and agencies planted trees on the plot. Located about three miles from the city the forest will not only be an economic asset to the community but will be equally useful as a public recreation area and sanctuary for birds and small animals.

Las Vegas Hobby Show—More than 1,000 articles were displayed recently at the Las Vegas, Nevada, first annual hobby show sponsored by the Parent-Teacher Association under the direction of Kenneth Van Vorst, city recreation director. The show, which was held in the gymnasium of the grammar school, included three divisions: (1) creative activities, consisting of woodwork, models, mechanical devices, inventions, arts and crafts; (2) articles such as old books, antiques, magazines, pressed mounted flowers, puzzles, old photographs and coins; (3) paper construction, new books, taxidermy, books on hobbies, spinning wheels, old silverware and dishes, etc.

Drama Contest Announced—The National Thespian Society, College Hill Station, Cincinnati 24, Ohio, announces a contest for the best papers outlining broad and workable postwar programs for the educational theater. Three subjects

"THE BEST THAT CAN BE MADE"



• Professional sports must be good or people won't pay their money to watch them, but everyone doesn't have to come up to professional standards to get benefit and enjoyment from sports. The professional's role is to lead the way, to stimulate interest . . . to get all the country playing. Sports can fit you to fight and can help you win. They can keep you "fit" for the enjoyment of life when the fighting is over. Like the professionals then, you'll want the best in sports equipment, and like great numbers of leading professionals, you'll discover that the best is stamped "Wilson." See your dealer.

Wilson Sporting Goods Co., Chicago, New York and other leading cities.

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IT'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT

are announced—"The Role of the Children's Theater in Postwar America"; "The Role of the High School Theater in Postwar America"; and "The Role of the College Theater in Postwar America."

Cash prizes will be awarded for the contest which will close October 1, 1944. Further information may be secured from the National Thespian Society.

A Recreation Center for Spanish Speaking Children—Hundreds of Spanish speaking children and youths from Denver's west side district have been provided with wholesome recreation facilities with the opening of the Lawrence Street Recreation Center. Promoted and sponsored by the Alianza Service Club, headed by citizens of Hispanic descent, the center is operated by the Recreation Department of the city and county of Denver, Colorado, and a special advisory committee. It is the only community center in Denver directed by Spanish speaking people.

The Putney Community Center—For nineteen years the Putney, Vermont, Community Center has served the 900 residents of that town. During its entire existence the Center has been privately supported. Ten years ago a community council made up of young married couples was organized to assist in raising funds and in the activities of the Center. Now, ten years later, this same group has cooperated by carrying on a successful campaign to raise funds to continue the work of the Center which carries on varied activities including a program of sports for boys and girls, an orchestra, play production and instruction in sewing and cooking.

Folklore and the Home—"The home is the first and by far the most important school. The old-world peasant sings to his child in the cradle and teaches him the folklore of the race as he learned it at his mother's knee. Is our history so barren it yields no legacy of ballad, song, and festival? Our Civil War alone has produced poems simple enough for a primary school child to memorize — Barbara Frietchie and Sheridan's Ride being the best known.

"If Harriet Beecher Stowe with her seven children found time to write *Uncle Tom's Cabin,* surely the twentieth century mother can sandwich in a story or a poem while she is feeding, bathing or dressing her child."—*Margaret Lee Southard.*

Charles M. Cox

On June 13th Charles M. Cox died in a hospital at Melrose, Massachusetts, after a brief illness. His age was eighty-four.

For more than twenty-seven years Mr. Cox had been deeply interested in the national recreation movement, caring particularly for boys and for clubs of boys. At the time of the First World War he gave about two years of his life as a volunteer to working for the National Recreation Association in various communities to help with the recreation problems. He gave his full time as if he were on salary and paid his own expenses as he went from place to place. Because of all that he had done in working with boys and because of his experience as a man of affairs in running a large business and serving in chambers of commerce and other business groups, he was able to contribute service of a very high order to the various communities in which he worked. For many years he was an honorary member of the National Recreation Association. Mr. Cox gave to Melrose, Massachusetts, the Messenger Playground and the playgrounds of the Lincoln and Washington Schools and also the site of the Roosevelt School.

Charles M. Cox spent part of his own leisure in painting, and at one time he held an exhibition of his paintings in Boston. He founded the Businessmen's Art Club in Boston.

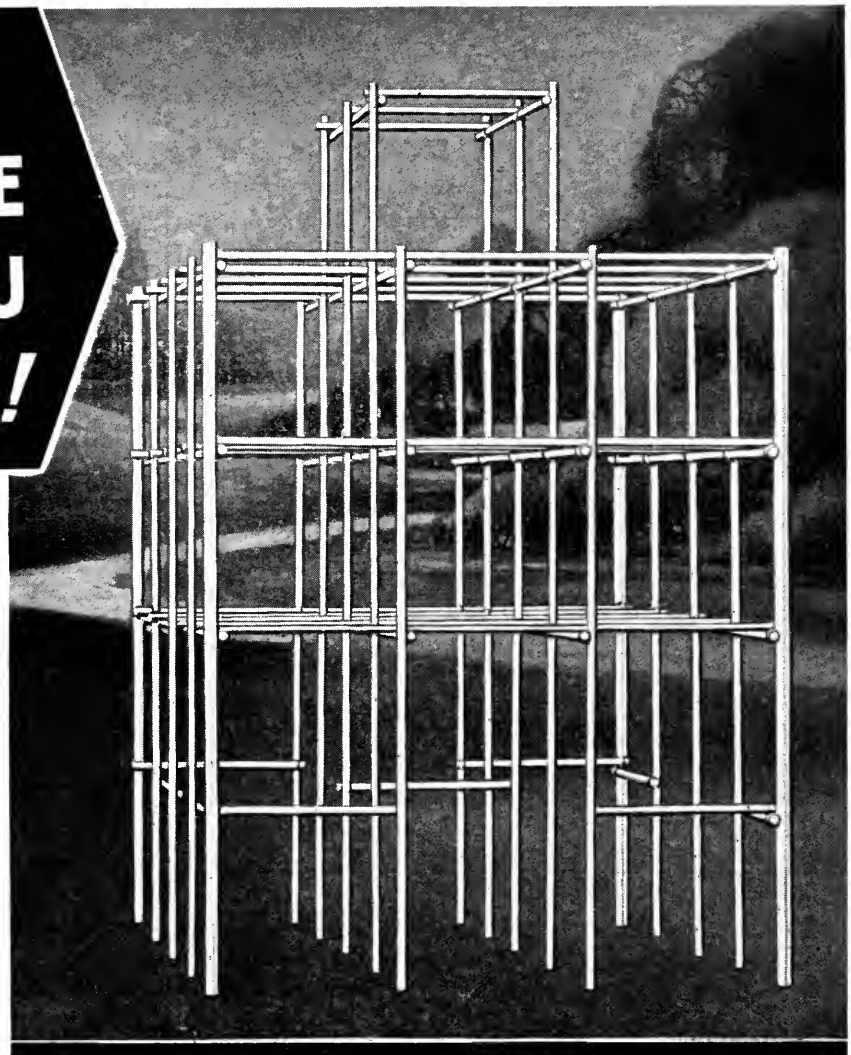
Charles M. Cox was always interested in the financial support of the Association. He was one of the pioneers who helped to build the national recreation movement. Howard Braucher

---

Wild Area Established—An order officially designating 18,709 acres of land in the Fremont National Forest, Oregon, as the "Gearhart Mountain Wild Area" has been issued by the U. S. Forest Service. The area will be permanently set aside for maintenance in its wilderness status.

The Gearhart Mountain Area is one of the largest timbered roadless areas remaining in Southern Oregon. Because of its rugged nature and the presence of fine mountain streams and peculiar geological features it is ideally adapted for wilderness recreational use. No road-building or commercial developments will be allowed in the new wild area, the Forest Service says.

STILL AVAILABLE --IF YOU *HURRY!*



The War Production Board has released materials to us to make a *limited* number of "Junglegym" Climbing Structures . . . for America's schools, parks and playgrounds . . . because the "Junglegym" Climbing Structure contributes vitally to the health and proper physical development of young America.

No wartime sacrifice in quality! All-steel construction, hot galvanized inside and out! Installed size: center tower, 10′-6″ high; outside wall, 8′-6″ high; length, 6′-3″ width, 8′-4″. Capacity, 35 children.

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Enroll in a Refresher Course in

MUNICIPAL RECREATION ADMINISTRATION

As a Means of Keeping Ahead of Your Job

This course is designed to acquaint recreation executives with the administration aspects of their department and its correlation with other departments of city government. Special emphasis is placed on the recreation problem: its program; areas and facilities; leadership; operation of playgrounds and recreation buildings; recreation organization; personnel; financial support; records and reports; evaluating recreation service; and publicity and relationships.

The enrollment fee of $35 will bring you the specially written text, an opportunity to apply the text material to your own recreation problems, comments of an authority in the field on each lesson assignment, and a certificate upon satisfactory completion of the work.

One enrollee recently wrote, *"Truthfully I cannot remember any effort on my part which has paid off in dividends so quickly."*

Send Inquiries to

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1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois

A Summer Club for High School Students—The Colorado Springs, Colorado, School Board during the past summer sponsored a summer recreation club open to students who graduated from junior high schools last spring and are entering the sophomore class in the high school in the fall. Boys and girls who were graduated from high school last year were also eligible to membership. The high school building was used as a center, the school cafeteria serving as a clubroom from 7:30 to 11:00 P. M. Fridays and from 7:30 to 11:30 on Saturdays of each week. Sandwiches, ice cream, and soft drinks were sold, and a juke box was used for dancing. An arm of the corridor leading into the cafeteria end equipped with easy chairs, tables, and lamps, served as a lounge. Ping-pong, darts, checkers, chess, and other games were available. In charge was a committee made up of students, parents, and faculty members.

San Francisco's New Photography Center—Because of the interest shown by adults, particularly servicemen, in photography, plus the desire for a more centrally located studio, the San Francisco Recreation Department has provided a spacious photography center which is the amateur photographer's dream come true. The center is primarily organized on a serve-yourself basis. However, the program is so established as to provide instruction for those who desire it. Lectures, moving pictures, exhibits, and contests are arranged to satisfy both the beginner and the advanced amateur photographer. There is no charge for the use of facilities, and all the photography fan need bring is his own negatives and photographic paper.

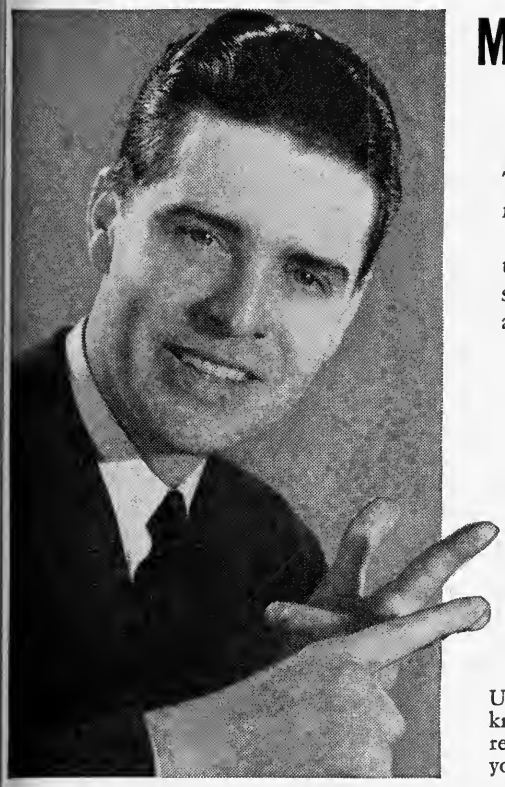
A special invitation is extended to servicemen and women to make use of these facilities.

A Plan of Action for Recreation

(Continued from page 183)

the proper environment — soft lights, good music, decorations. Especially do high school youth insist upon the proper "atmosphere."

6. Emphasize those activities in which large numbers participate rather than events in which only a few "stars" take part.



MUNICIPAL PLANNING CALLS FOR KNOW-HOW BUYERS . . .

The responsibility of selecting the right seating facilities for a community center proves a puzzler to those who are not engineers.

If you are concerned about making an investment in bleachers that will never prove a boomerang in any way, you want them safe, durable, economical and adaptable. You will find these advantages in UNIVERSAL BLEACHERS.

THEY ARE SAFE because the greater the load, the more rigid the stand.

THEY ARE DURABLE because they have no intricate parts. No castings. All stress and strain anticipated in the design, in the lumber selected, and in the workmanship.

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7. Revise the program whenever is appears desirable to do so.

Interest in recreation today is at as high a point in Wisconsin as it has ever reached. Parent-Teacher Associations are in a position to help guide this interest into proper channels. The goals toward which we should strive are: Good leadership, sound financial support, adequate facilities, equipment and supplies, utilization of the best thinking of both youth and adults, and a program of wholesome, varied, and interesting activities.

Britain Welcomes the Americans

(Continued from page 210)

a school will devote a whole week to an elaborate American program. The children learn American songs, make American flags to decorate the assembly room, get up short skits dramatizing scenes from American history, and then put on a big show for their parents and friends. It is something of a thrill for an American to hear British school children enthusiastically singing the *Star-Spangled Banner,* considering the fact that it commemorates the unsuccessful attempts of a British fleet to knock said banner off an American fort. Many British school children are corresponding with American children, and hoping some day to visit their new friends.

The universities are doing everything possible to entertain American visitors, and both Oxford and Cambridge offer short courses for servicemen on leave. The Provost of King's College and the Master of Trinity devote most of their time to showing parties of Americans around their colleges.

Various systems for providing personal introductions have been organized. The English-Speaking Union in London operates a dating service where Americans can get a partner for the movies or an invitation to tea, and these dates being tailor-made, are more successful than the original bulk lists of dinner invitations. Rotary Clubs, Red Cross canteens, and other agencies are making "opposite number" contacts between Americans and British of the same trade or profession, and this road to acquaintance is so successful that Army authorities are interested in promoting it on the largest scale.

Many Americans will remember England with

(Continued on page 218)

The Y Completes One Hundred Years

THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the Young Men's Christian Association is a fitting time to record the cooperation between the recreation movement and the Y. Y leaders have helped establish local tax-supported playgrounds and recreation centers. Many trained Y workers left the security of their privately supported positions to become municipal recreation executives.

Luther Halsey Gulick, the first president of the society that became the National Recreation Association, came out of the Y. Lee F. Hanmer had been general secretary of the Y at Cornell University. E. B. DeGroot, George W. Ehler, William H. Burdick, George Hjelte and many others came over from the Y.M.C.A. John S. Tichenor and E. C. Worman worked on the national staff in both the Y and the National Recreation Association.

The contribution of Richard Morse, the great Y leader, to the community recreation movement in giving hours upon hours of his time to facing its problems will never be forgotten. Dr. George J. Fisher and Dr. J. H. McCurdy worked hard to build the new recreation movement. Springfield College and George Williams College made substantial contributions. In various localities before the National Recreation Association had field secretaries, the Y general secretaries helped in local campaigns.

Workers in the national recreation movement have made use of Y.M.C.A. publications. The Y has encouraged extensive cooperative use of N.R.A. literature, the same books bearing the imprint of both organizations. Both movements have worked closely together in the National Social Work Council and the National Education-Recreation Council.

The Y has a record of achievements during the one hundred year period that is just ending.

I believe it will be even stronger one hundred years from now than it is today, that it will be just as much needed then as it is now. The keeping of high spiritual standards in one organization helps all who have a will to work cooperatively to build together for culture, for strength, for joy in living on the part of all of us in this our America.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

New York Youth Speaks Out

AT A RECENT local teen age youth conference, sponsored by the Welfare Council of New York City, about 100 youth had opportunity to express their feelings as to youth needs and to comment critically on existing opportunities. In addition to a general meeting, several panel discussions were held on different phases of youth activities.

One youth speaker pointed out that local ordinances forbid the use of many commercial recreation facilities by youth under eighteen, such as bowling alleys, skating rinks and so forth. She suggested that such facilities might be made available to younger groups at specified hours to help meet the need of this particular age group.

Youth urged also that recreational facilities should be open all day during the summer season and after school and evenings during the school year. There was particular emphasis on the need for fuller use of school facilities for recreation.

Considerable attention was given to the problem of leadership and youth felt that although they do not want too much adult leadership, they do feel the need for skillful background advisory help. It was suggested that leadership training courses be conducted for youth in the high schools of the city.

Britain Welcomes the Americans

(Continued from page 217)

pleasure because of the kindness and cordiality of the people whom they have met. But few of them will have had a chance to travel widely in England and to get a clear picture of the immense effort that the British people are making, in the midst of all the difficulties and deprivations of war, to show their friendship for their American allies.

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 209)

Trees. "The Complete Guide to North American Trees," by Carlton C. Curtis and S. C. Bausor. New Home Library, New York. 337 pp., illus. 69 cents.

Weather. "Clouds and Weather Phenomena," by C. J. P. Cave. Cambridge University Press, New York. 46 pp., illus. $1.75.

Woodlot. The Future Farmers of America chapter at Sanderson Academy, Ashfield, Massachusetts, has purchased a twenty-acre woodlot for $300. It will be conducted as a group project and

ACTUAL PHOTO OF TWO-WAY BOWLING ALLEYS IN USE AT GRAND CENTRAL PALACE, NEW YORK CITY, THE LARGEST INDUCTION CENTER IN THE WORLD!

Two-Way Bowling Alleys are now in use all over the United States and on many war fronts, by the Army, Navy, Marines, Merchant Marine, Coast Guard, WACS, U.S.O. Clubs, "Y's," and Recreation Centers.

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demonstration plot for approved forestry practices. Members are cutting and marketing lumber and wood to cover the purchase price. The woodlot will be managed under the advice of the Massachusetts State College Extension Specialist in Forestry.

A Day Camp in Dowagiac

(Continued from page 190)

down under the trees on blankets while a counselor reads or tells stories.

Handcraft classes are held for those who wish to learn to make leather billfolds, wrist bands, trick pocketbooks, and other articles. These classes make use of natural materials such as acorns, leaves and stones as well as leather, metal and wood products. Alternating with handcraft are treasure hunts, stunts, and group activities.

In the afternoon all of the children have another swim period and at 4:00 the buses leave for town with a load of tired but happy children.

Country Dancing Around the U.S.A.

(Continued from page 194)

While in Texas I found that there were two dances I simply had to add to my repertoire. Everywhere I went I was greeted with the question, "Do you do, 'Put Your Little Foot' and 'Ten Pretty Girls'?" The first named dance is simply a version of the Varsovienne (which has a variety of spellings and pronunciations) and the other is a dance which can be done by any number, in line, arms around the folks on either side of you. The steps are simple, done to the tune of "Ten Pretty Girls." It is quite fetching, and very popular throughout Texas. Both of these dances

have been well received in many other states.

A number of short training courses for prospective leaders have been conducted, and this is the big job to be done. If a sufficient number of recreation people can learn how to teach this activity, there will be no limit to the growth of interest. Universally, the folks who were at all critical of square dances were people who associated them with rowdyism, or who had tried to dance in places where the caller simply went ahead with his calls and left the teaching process to the people in each square, with resulting confusion. These callers have a tremendous contribution to make to us. Their picturesque calls, their unfailing good humor, their tirelessness must be admired and emulated. But their contribution must be supplemented by teaching techniques, especially for beginners.

In a Southern Illinois town, as part of the USO club's dedication program, I was scheduled to conduct a country dance party. Invitations brought in people from outlying places throughout the county. Many of these folks were real square dancers. Starting the program with a Circassian Circle and two squares — "Take a Peek" and "Birdie in the Cage"—I found these experienced folk were somewhat puzzled. My accent, coupled with the unaccustomed tones of the public address system, made it hard for them to follow me. I invited them to put on the next group of dances. And they did! Seven sets made up of local dancers and novices were formed. Each set had its own caller. The music (rendered by the Happy Meek Family — and good!) started — and away they went, each square doing its own dance to its own caller's directions! There was fun galore; and it was the way they liked to do it.

Rockford, Illinois, is a regular "hotbed" of square dancing. At least a dozen civilian square dance clubs have regular programs. The clubs have united in a federation known as the Rockford Square Dance Association which sponsors public square dances in the city parks in the summer. The money necessary to carry on the program is raised by holding several special joint dances during the winter. Many of these dancers attend the weekly square dance held in the USO club and give invaluable aid by their presence and participation. To see one of these dances, conducted by Uncle Tom Harrington, caller extraordinary and teacher par excellence, was a recent privilege.

The camaraderie of square dance people is never failing. The weekly dance in the Rockford USO club is extremely popular with servicemen. I saw at least fifteen sets on the floor at a time, and the dancing was remarkbale.

Experiences in local communities have convinced me that the fundamentally sound values of square dancing appeal to people of practically all ages from varying social environments. The thousands of servicemen and women who are participating for the first time—and with great enthusiasm—come from every conceivable walk of life and every corner of our country. If recreation leaders will meet the challenge now and in the period after the war, this important segment of genuine American folklore will contribute much to the happiness of our people.

Now Off the Press!

THE NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION has been so busy recently preparing material for publication that we may not have taken time to give you as complete information as we should about these new publications. So we have decided to conduct an "Off-the-Press" column which will tell you in some detail about new books and booklets and the revision of old ones. We hope you will get into the habit of looking for this column.

This month we introduce *Recreation for Men,* a 196 page book in which we take some pride because it contains so much practical information for recreation workers and laymen conducting activities for men's groups. There are directions for playing indoor and outdoor games. There are mental games, puzzles, quizzes, and there are suggestions for drama, music, and hobbies in the program for men.

The Table of Contents reads something like this:

PART I—Indoor Activities: Game Room Activities; Games for Large and Small Groups; Guessing Games and Mental Gymnastics; Riddles and Puzzles; Tricks and Mystery Games; Dinner Table Fun; Hilarious Stunts, Contests and Relays

PART II—Drama; Music; Hobbies

PART III—Outdoor Games: Team Games; Games for Two or Four Players; Contests and Stunts; Relays; Low Organized Games; Winter Sports

PART IV—Water Sports

You will want a copy of this immediately. You may secure it for $1.25.

Now on the press is another publication which will have the title, *Parties A to Z.* In the August issue of RECREATION we will tell you more about this book, which is going to be an important aid to your social recreation program.

"No Camps—But Fellows Had Fun!"

IN THE *New York Journal-American* last summer, Louis Sobol wrote of his childhood vacation days, which he said were happy ones even though there were no camps for the children of that era.

"Of course, there were some boys whose folks went off to farms or to sea resorts for the summer, although most of them were from snootier neighborhoods. My set was satisfied to take a run up to the pond in the mornings or in the late afternoons, or hike out to the woods. Our fathers rarely got vacations if they worked in the shop, or took one if they owned stores. Our mothers got no rest, even on Sundays—especially on Sundays!

"But we had picnics to look forward to. Sometimes just a group of the neighbors made up their own outing. Sometimes it was one church or the other—sometimes a lodge.

"It was a tolerant era, and the Catholic and Jewish girls and boys went gaily off to the picnic sponsored by the Protestant Church and vice versa, all around. Usually we went by open trolley car. Occasionally we would crowd into wagons. Our mothers made up sandwiches. When we got out to the picnic grounds, some of the women would get busy making lemonade.

"The games were simple—baseball, foot races, tug o' war, weight lifting, stone hurling, trick diving, and tree climbing. The older boys and girls did a bit of spooning which met with very little sympathy and much jeering from us hard-boiled younger ones."

Mr. Sobol told of the one eventful year when he went with his mother and sister to a farm in Connecticut. "I learned about catching buckeyes with bare hands as they tried to flap back over wooden dams, how to skin a woodchuck, how to recognize a skunk in time, how to pick wild strawberries without contracting ivy poisoning—the best strawberries were always in the poison ivy stretches—to put sugar on a bee-sting wound, to drink pigeon's eggs raw."

Now that traveling is so restricted, there may be happy suggestions in Mr. Sobol's report of the simple vacation life enjoyed in the company of neighbors and friends, without benefit, for the most part, of any equipment other than that provided so bountifully by Mother Nature!

GYM MATS-PADS
BOXING RINGS
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For War Workers and Their Families

(Continued from page 200)

in a blood station in the community building. Through the women's group of the recreation program, a house-to-house canvass was made for donors. Canteen service was provided and all booking, scheduling, and appointments were handled through this group.

During the winter season a portion of the group activities in the community was devoted to free play. This is a vital part of the recreation program at Roxana. Conducted on the playground during the summer months, free play provided the center of interest for community activity of all ages. It was maintained with a minimum number of leaders present, the participants themselves assisting.

A section of the grounds was equipped each evening with teeters, movable swings, sand box, large building locks, toys, junglegym, small tables, chairs and horizontal bars, wagons and wheelbarrows. Modeling clay and other art material were provided. To this area mothers and fathers brought their small children to play while they sat and visited or used the badminton, tether ball, horseshoe, paddle tennis, or croquet courts, or the six target archery range. From a central room, a large supply of rubber balls, footballs, equipment for softball, horseshoes, archery, croquet, and badminton was checked out for the asking. Seldom were things left on the playground without being returned—nor was equipment intentionally misused.

The help which older children extended to the younger group, and the assistance adults gave proved that the individuals of the community were interested in aiding the program.

A program of recreation in a community, to be effective, must not only be planned for all but must also be presented to all. We accomplished this by preparing a detailed account of the recreation activities in an attractive booklet which was delivered to each home in the community.

"We Need Each Other"

(Continued from page 207)

priest managed the league until both entered the service. Now a busy lawyer does the job.

The Webster Groves project provides more than adequate entertainment and recreation for all age groups. Foreign-born American citizens come in for their share of recognition through a series of informal parties honoring the Allied Nations. An outdoor carol sing around the town's Christmas tree with the high school band playing was an innovation and is well on its way to becoming a community custom and tradition.

An adult planning group meets regularly at homes of its members and spends hours mapping out details of program. A junior group functions in the same manner. On the city hall lawn is a life size painted poster of two neighbors shaking hands across the back fence — symbolizing the Committee's slogan, "We Need Each Other."

In a sense, the Community Activities Committee is not an organization but that which, in the hearts of people residing here, motivates each one to do the kindly deed toward his neighbor. Rules and bylaws are being drafted to keep the many activities in check. When the war ends the Committee hopes to swing a successful bond issue that will enable it to build a swimming pool, community house and other necessary additions on Forty Acres.

Thus, as they work, Committee members recall the verse of the Lord's Supper in "The Vision of Sir Launfal."

> "Not what we give but what we share —
> For the gift without the giver is bare.
> Who gives himself with his alms feeds three —
> Himself, his hungry neighbor, and me."

Recreation in the Mormon Church

(Continued from page 198)

of performance, emphasize greater economy, develop leadership possibilities, and provide additional educational opportunities. All of us might well attempt to "spiritualize" recreation, in the words of Dr. L. P. Jacks, in that our great problem is "keeping up a high quality of body and mind in the mass of people."

Let's Go Fishin'

(Continued from page 173)

flow of the stream, the stretch of forest and mountain in their manifestation of the Maker, that soothes our troubles, shames our wickedness and inspires us to esteem our fellow men — especially other fishermen.

Now Youth Has a Chance!

(Continued from page 192)

at the present time we have approximately one thousand members. It is is controlled by a board of directors composed of thirty men and women (ten elected for one year, ten for two years, and ten for three years). This board elects a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. The final authority is delegated to an executive committee composed of the elected officers and one other member selected by the elected officers, making a total of five who have the authority to do all things necessary for the opening and operation of recreation centers.

How the Plan Operates

In each area where a center is to be opened, a committee of fifteen fathers and mothers is organized as the "sponsoring group" for that particular center. Then the young people are called together and they select a committee of fifteen, who, together with the adult sponsor group, work out the details of the program. The United Recreation Foundation has employed an over-all recreation director whose responsibility it is to plan the entire recreation program at all centers. All of the equipment used in the centers have been paid for by the Foundation. The entire city has given splendid support in the raising of the necessary money for the carrying forward of this work. All such monies have been raised by public donation.

The School Board has given permission to use the school buildings and the teachers have been most cooperative in operating the program, which is doing much to counteract the idea that to be a good sport it is necessary to frequent a cocktail lounge and drink hard liquor. It has made the "coke box" and the games popular with the youngsters, and they resist zealously any encroachment on the high standards they have set up. They themselves see to it that no smoking, drinking, or rowdiness is permitted.

In the opinion of the United Recreation Foundation, this program for youth is doing much to prevent delinquency. The Judge of the Juvenile Court and the city judge are both members of the executive committee, and their reports offer proof that we are making a constructive attack on the problem.

The SERA Center

(Continued from page 180)

women's dressing rooms with tile showers. Over the game room is a storage place for the instruments of the Scovill Drum Corps, an activity supported by the Recreation Association.

There is a modern projection booth, and when movies are shown, the concealed screen is rolled down on the stage and the south basketball backboard and basket are raised by pulleys arranged for that purpose.

The floor of the recreation hall is matched maple, treated with two coats of penetrating oil and two of powdered wax. Leather upholstered wall seats line the east and west sides and the front of the stage on the south side of the auditorium.

The stage is equipped with a regulation size motion picture screen, "disappearing" footlights and semiconcealed platform steps. The arch opening is 25 feet long and 18 feet high. After shows or meetings, the folding seats can be quickly cleared from the floor and stored above the foyer in a space behind the motion picture booth.

The game room, like the lounge, is handsomely furnished and equipped with facilities for pocket billiards, table tennis, checkers, chess and cards. There is a piano available for those who wish to play, and another piano is located on the stage.

The Center is designed to provide the widest variety of indoor sports, games and recreational activities and is open sixteen hours a day. A uniformed guard is on hand to look after the equipment and to assist the participants.

SERA Center has drawn the favorable attention of recreation people in other war industries in the Waterbury area because of its attractiveness, modernity and adaptability to the wide number of indoor diversions and sports.

They'll Be Busy in Tucson This Summer!

(Continued from page 184)

bath houses, sand boxes and other equipment for all ages to enjoy. Daily attendance has been more than 250.

Oury Park—a Mexican Center which has a community clubhouse with dance floor, stage, kitchen, swimming pool, and athletic field.

Ochoa Center, which contains a completely equipped small children's playground, with ping-pong, handball courts, basketball, volley ball and carrousel.

Carrillo Center, with a complete playground, baseball diamond, basketball and volley ball courts, swimming pool and ping-pong tables.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Alabama Social Welfare, May 1944

Centerville Youth Center, Sue McNeely Long

Beach and Pool, April 1944

Here's an Answer to the Man-power Shortage, George B. Caskey

Properties of Filter Materials, George W. Coltman

The Progressive Physical Educator, May 1944

The Church and Recreation, Dr. James S. Chubb

Co-recreation Hour at Berea College, Minnie Maude Macauley

Religion and Recreation Shake Hands, Libby Pearce and Alley Bass

Public Management, April 1944

How Cities Are Planning Postwar Improvements

PAMPHLETS

How to Box Correctly, John J. Romano

Published by Benlee Sporting Goods Mfg. Co., 115 University Place, New York. Price 25 cents

How to Organize and Supervise Boy Builders Clubs, M. M. Romig and O. G. Hughson

Published by Douglas Fir Plywood Association, 205 East 42nd Street, New York 17. Price 25 cents

Juvenile Delinquency and the Schools in Wartime

U. S. Office of Education. For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Price 10 cents

Leadership in the Playground

Wisconsin Recreation Association, 3841 West St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Money-Making Plans for Builders

Published by Douglas Fir Plywood Association, 205 East 42nd Street, New York 17

Official Softball Rules

Hillerich and Bradsby Company, Louisville, Kentucky

Pan American Principles Fundamental to World Cooperation, Florence Brewer Boeckel

People's Mandate Committee for Inter-American Peace and Cooperation, Hay-Adams House, Washington, D. C.

Things to Do in Newark

Published by the Public Library of Newark, New Jersey. Price 10 cents

Victory Gardens for Boys and Girls

The National Victory Garden Institute, 598 Madison Avenue, New York 22

What About Us? A Report of Community Recreation for Young People

Office of Community War Services, Division of Recreation, Washington, D. C.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

A Treasury of American Folklore

Edited by B. A. Botkin. Crown Publishers, 419 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. $3.00.

HERE ARE STORIES, ballads, and traditions of the people edited by an authority on the subject, for Mr. Botkin is assistant in charge of the Archive of American Folksong in the Library of Congress. Carl Sandburg in his foreword calls this compilation "nothing less than an encyclopedia of the folklore of America. . . . It will pass the time, furnish laughter, provide entertainment; it will give you something of the feel of American history."

The book contains more than 500 stories, over 100 songs with words and music—songs people have always loved to sing together at picnics and parties; stories Americans have told for many years around campfires and cracker barrels.

To Make Men Free—Landmarks of Liberty in Review

Book and lyrics by Edith Sanford Tillotson. Music by Ira B. Wilson. Lorenz Publishing Company, 501 East Third Street, Dayton 1, Ohio. $1.00.

A PATRIOTIC PAGEANT based on "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The music has been arranged for a four-part mixed chorus from which tenor and bass may be omitted if desired. The right of performance of this work must be obtained in writing from the publishers or their authorized agents, and the right of performance covers not more than two consecutive performances by the same group in the same location.

Watchers of the World

By Percy Jewett Burrell. Walter H. Baker Company, Boston. $.50.

THIS IS A DRAMATIC RITUAL for the dedication of service flag and honor roll and for Memorial Day. Permission is given by the author and the publishers to churches, church schools and church organizations, Y.M.C.A.'s, Y.W.C.A.'s, colleges, schools, settlements and other civic and educational organizations to use this dramatic ritual, without royalty fee, provided no charge is made for admission, and at least six copies, at fifty cents each, have been purchased. In return it is requested that two copies of the program be mailed by the directors to Walter H. Baker Company, Boston.

Going Camping with Intermediate Boys and Girls

International Council of Religious Education, 203 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago 1, Illinois. $1.00.

THIS MANUAL was prepared for use by camp administrators, official church camp planning bodies, counselors, teachers, directors, business managers and parents, and local church workers with intermediates. The practical and inspirational suggestions it has to offer are presented in a way which makes the manual exceedingly readable and serviceable for all groups conducting camping for intermediate boys and girls.

Bicycling

By Ruth and Raymond Benedict. The Barnes Sports Library. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York 18. $1.25.

EVERYTHING PERTAINING to the bicycle and bicycling is included in this book—how to take care of your bicycle; riding technique; safety rules; the planning of trips; touring equipment; and the organization of cycle clubs. Photographs and line drawings add to the interest of the subject matter.

Tax-Reverted Properties in Urban Areas

Public Administration Service, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois. Price $2.50.

THIS VOLUME is extremely useful in helping local public officials to understand the possibilities of the use of tax delinquent lands for public purposes including recreation, park and school purposes. It covers very thoroughly the present procedures and difficulties in acquiring title to tax delinquent lands and outlines a definite program for meeting these difficulties. This volume should be in the library of every municipality, and recreation executives will want to study it to determine the possibilities in their own localities for the acquisition of land for recreation purposes, particularly where this can be done in acquiring areas needed for postwar and long term developments. Where this volume is not available, recreation commissions and executives will undoubtedly wish to recommend to the chief executive of the municipality that it be secured for the local municipal library.

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A Message to the Children on the Playgrounds of America

from

HONORABLE JOHN G. WINANT

Ambassador to the Court of St. James
Former Chairman Social Security Board
Three times Governor of New Hampshire
First Vice-President, National Recreation Association

LONDON, W. I.
June 27, 1944

Today your fathers and brothers fight bravely on the far-flung battlefronts of the world.

I like to think, as I know many of them do, of the playgrounds, athletic fields, swimming pools and beautiful parks in communities all over America. In their mind's eye they see your smiling faces and know your carefree life. They remember it was good to live in that kind of country. They are determined that you and all of America's children shall continue to have that kind of life.

On the playgrounds of America this summer your happiness will lighten the load of your fathers and brothers. They will know you are living the kind of life for which they are fighting and that you too will become the kind of men and women that will keep America a much beloved land, but because you have good fun, don't think that those who are fighting around the world to protect America don't also know that you are doing your share in helping at home.

Sincerely,

JOHN G. WINANT

August

Tufts College coeds stage a cook-out right on campus! Travel restrictions curtailed the recreational plans of students at Tufts, so they constructed their own fireplace in back of one of the dormitories on the campus at Medford, Massachusetts.

Living Memorials

By WILLIAM MATHER LEWIS
President
Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania
Baccalaureate Sermon
June 18, 1944

IN THE ACCOUNT of the Transfiguration as recorded in the Gospel according to St. Matthew we find these words, "And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James and John his brother and bringeth them up unto a high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them, and his face did shine as the sun and his raiment was white as the light.

"And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elijah talking with him.

"Then answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Lord it is good for us to be here; if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee and one for Moses and one for Elijah.

"And while he yet spake, behold a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold a voice out of the cloud which said, this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear ye him."

This was a great experience for the three simple men who left the great company of people in the valley and journeyed with Jesus to the mountain top. For they had seen talking together, Moses representing the law, representing also those who had passed through death into the kingdom; Elijah representing the prophets and those who entered the kingdom through translation, and Jesus the Messiah, for whose ultimate appearing the lawmakers and prophets had eagerly looked during the centuries.

They were stirred to make some adequate recognition of this momentous event. "Let us build here three tabernacles, one for thee; one for Moses and one for Elijah." Here was the age-old reaction of man—to memorialize a great event with a monument, a statue, a cairn, a pyramid.

It has been man's desire since the dawn of civilization to erect monuments to perpetuate their own names or the names of those whom they admire. The earth is strewn with such structures too often symbolic of man's vanity rather than of his achievement. In saying this I do not question the motives of Peter or suggest that the tabernacles would have had no value: I merely point out that his conception was inadequate. Marcus Cato well said, "I would rather have men ask why I have no statue than why I have one." The voice from the clouds said, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him." This was, indeed, the answer to Peter's suggestion. Earthly tabernacles could not properly memorialize the event—there must be "a building of God, an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens" built on the teachings of Jesus.

"Can storied urn, or animated bust
Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?
Can honour's voice provoke the silent dust,
Or flatt'ry soothe the dull cold ear of death?"

I have never seen statistics relative to the amount of money wrapped up in memorials throughout the United States. It must total hundreds of billions of dollars.

Now we are approaching another period when countless people will wish to erect monuments to those who have given their lives or have done some great deed, that we might continue to live in a free country.

God forbid that we should erect dead memorials as has been the custom in the past. After the Civil War few communities in the land failed to erect an angular monument surmounted by the metal effigy of a soldier. Washington parks and circles are disfigured with grotesque equestrian statues. Freakish structures mark many historic spots.

What memorials shall we erect? What will be worthy of the boys who laid down their lives at the Anzio beachhead, along the French coast and in the islands of the Pacific? . . .

If our beloved sons could speak, they would ask us not to misinterpret them in useless panoply, but to carry on for them in high adventure.

There are three types of monuments: those which have no value artistically or functionally; those which have beauty without utility; and finally, those which deserve the name "living memorials," which contribute something to the welfare of mankind. Of the first type there are innumerable examples; the second, the beautiful memorials, do have some justification. But for him who suffered on the field of battle, what better memorial than a hospital or an endowed hospital bed or medical research project, or a medical center. Cancer and tuberculosis are greater foes of

mankind than are military aggressors. For him who laid aside his books and his ambitions in connection with scholarly pursuits, what more fitting memorial than a perpetual scholarship in some institution of learning where youth generation after generation may join the quest of truth. For those who went out of a community where the opportunities for wholesome entertainment were restricted, a fine playground or a community hall would be splendid living memorials. A community hall open constantly for athletic games, symphony concerts, dances — a place which would counteract the degrading commercialized amusement so common in most cities; a crippled children's clinic; a church center such as the people of Coventry have planned; a music foundation. The list of living memorials is endless if we but give our minds and hearts to the task of realizing the possibilities of immortalizing our heroes.

Every college campus should have its memorial hall — not as a show place but as the center of some great intellectual enterprise conceived in the interest of humanity. This well might take the form of a Hall of World Affairs; where teachers and students of various nationalities and creeds, living and working together would seek through sound and realistic methods to develop international understandings and trust. Here lies the great hope of enduring peace — not in fantastic programs, not in wishful thinking of a Chamberlain at Munich but a united and far-reaching endeavor to think the whole tremendous problem through. Many times our academic interests . . . have discouraged international good-will rather than promoted it. . . .

You may recall that in the motion picture, "Edison, the Man," Mr. Edison is the guest of honor at a banquet where the technical leaders pay their tribute to the great inventor and in his response he says, "To be told by the outstanding men and women of your time that you have contributed a great deal to human betterment is pleasant, very pleasant. I would hardly be human if my heart did not thrill with such a major compliment. But somehow I have not achieved the success I want. Earlier this evening I talked with two school children. Tomorrow the world will be theirs. It is a troubled world — full of doubt and uncertainty. You say we men of science have been helping it. Are those children and their children going to approve of what we have done? Or are they going to discover too late that science was trusted too much so that it has turned into a monster whose final triumph is man's own destruction?

"Some of us are beginning to feel that danger, but it can be avoided. I once had two dynamos. They needed regulating. It was a problem of balance and adjustment. And I feel that the confusion in the world today presents much the same problem. The dynamo of man's God-given ingenuity is running away with the dynamo of his equally God-given humanity. I am now too old to do much more than to say, 'Put those dynamos in balance. Make them work in harmony as the great Designer intended they should.' It can be done. What man's mind can conceive, man's character can control. Man must learn that, and then we needn't be afraid of tomorrow, and man will go forward toward more light."

That institution which teaches its technical students to put the dynamo of man's God-given ingenuity in balance with the dynamo of his equally God-given humanity will indeed erect a magnificent memorial for those of its graduates who went down in the storm.

Pope Brock, a Regent of the University of Georgia, recently said in his Charter Day address, "It is entirely possible to maintain an endurable social order with a modest amount of technology if there be present the necessary political, intellectual and spiritual statesmanship. But if this statesmanship be lacking, then all the technology, the genius man can create cannot save the world from anarchy. The question is not whether we shall abandon the teaching of the trades and technical skills but it is whether we shall first provide the leadership without which the mastery of the vocations is a fruitless expenditure of effort."

Now, you may say that the subject of monuments is out of keeping with the spirit of Baccalaureate Sunday. Monuments, however desirable, are after all erected in honor of those who have completed their lives not for those who are beginning them. This is only partially true. "All are architects of fate working on the walls of time, some with massive deeds and great, some with ornaments of rhyme."

From the day of his birth every individual builds his monument — some with stone, others with wood; hay; stubble. Day after day they grow. You see them going up all around you—if you have the eyes to see. Every man on the battle-front is building his, with blood, sweat and tears, but no less is every man on the homefront. For

many it is a monument of self-denial; of eager participation in every enterprise which will help win the war, in willing cooperation in efforts to maintain and strengthen the institution in whose service they are; of readiness to withhold destructive criticism until all the evidence is in. For others it is an ugly monument, a monument upon which is inscribed in sharp relief the words, What do I get out of it; the monument of selfishness and pettiness, of evil communication. Will each of us be able to look at the monument he has built during the war with inner satisfaction, with certainty that he gave the best he had at all times to the end that victory might come surely and quickly. There are unhappy days ahead for those whose record is not what they would wish to show to the boys when they come home.

Thus in all the activities of our lives the monuments go up. That is why the subject of monuments is an appropriate theme for a baccalaureate sermon. That is why William Hazlitt said, "Those only deserve a monument who do not need one; that is those who have raised themselves a monument in the minds and memories of men."

We cannot beat the game. Our true monuments may be concealed for the moment but in the end the scaffolding comes down and there it is. The monument into which unworthy thought has gone will profit us nothing. A medieval Prince, an atheist, laughed at the assertion of an ultimate resurrection. He built for himself a mausoleum, constructed of tremendously thick stone. "Now let God get my body on his resurrection day," he sneered. But a seed from a tree dropped into a small crack between the stones and in the years a sturdy oak pushed aside the slabs and made a great opening. We can't beat the game.

And, behold, a voice out of the cloud which said, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him."

The voice from the clouds gives us the best instruction for monument building uttered through all time—"This is my beloved Son, hear ye him." If you who are going out to meet life heed that injunction, the future will hold no terror for you.

"History was made by men and women who were not afraid to gamble on the hope of the future, and in our time history is being made again by those who are not afraid to face the heaviest odds to keep human hope alive." — *David Cushman Coyle* in *America.*

Courtesy Press Association, Inc.

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt

BRIG. GEN. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, son of the late President, died suddenly on July 12, 1944, on a battlefield in Normandy.

For many years he had been a devoted friend of the National Recreation Association and an honorary member, and ever an ardent believer in the playground and recreation center movement in the localities of the United States. He gave encouragement to the Association workers, wrote for the RECREATION Magazine, spoke at a Recreation Congress. At the time of the President's Outdoor Recreation Conference he was the real executive leader, and the Association worked closely with him, contributing the full time of a worker for many months to help in making the Conference a success. He was active in the work of the Boy Scouts of America.

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt thought of his own father, President Theodore Roosevelt, as a real recreation leader, recognizing the unusual opportunity he and the members of his family had had for recreation in their own home. His father had been Honorary President of the National Recreation Association for a great many years, and one of the first organization meetings of the society was held in the White House with his

(Continued on page 270)

Victory Gardens in Housing Developments

"Eighty per cent of all our residents had victory gardens of some size in 1943, and at least 89 per cent are planning gardens in 1944," reports the Vancouver, Washington, Housing Authority. This is a significant statement which adds interest to these stories about victory gardens at two housing projects, and the Harvest Festival and Victory Fair so successfully held.

A Victory Fair

By WALTER E. POLLOCK
Project Services Adviser
Vancouver Housing Authority

A VICTORY GARDEN CONTEST for war workers that ended in a county-wide Victory Fair; that, in brief, is the "great oaks from little acorns" story of the Vancouver, Washington, Housing Authority's gardening activities of last season.

The story begins in March 1943 when McLoughlin Heights, the largest federal housing project in the United States, was only a month old. Through the cooperation of the project services department of the housing authority, the Clark County agricultural agents' office, and the Vancouver OCD, community garden plots were secured to augment the small home plots the newcomers wished to grow. The response was surprising. Eighty per cent of all residents had gardens of some size, even though they might be a 10′ x 10′ plot in their small yards. Gardens from all housing areas were registered in the central project services office in McLoughlin Heights, and were judged by local citizens and members of the Greater Vancouver Recreation Association staff.

It was then that the idea of a Victory Fair was born. Because of gas rationing and crowded time in the defense industry community, the long standing Clark County Fair which had been held every September had been discontinued for the duration. Then came the great idea! As a climax to the garden program, why not have a regular, old-time county fair where ribbons and awards would be presented, and the zealous gardeners could have an opportunity to display their produce? The idea caught on immediately. County agricultural agents and OCD workers enthusiastically cooperated with the housing authority to make the fair a success.

There was another very special reason for holding the fair. Because the housing projects are located some distance from the residential areas of Vancouver proper, there had been a need for activities in which old-timers could take part and learn to know and appreciate newcomers to the area. A county-wide fair would—and did—prove a valuable link between the two groups.

That the enterprise was a success is proved by two facts: 1. This season at least 95 per cent of all housing residents are planning gardens. 2. A definite interest in the housing areas and project services activities on the part of old-timers became apparent during the fair. Requests for talks concerning the recreation program and housing authority's problems and plans came frequently from a group of varied civic, fraternal and social organizations in Vancouver. The newspapers in Portland, the sister city located across the Columbia River, as well as those in Vancouver, were tremendously interested.

The Victory Fair was held September 1st and 2nd, in the large gymnasium, lobby, and clubrooms of the McLoughlin Heights Community Center. In addition to garden produce such as celery, lettuce, squash, watermelon, corn, peas, rhubarb, tomatoes, cucumbers, potatoes, prunes and peaches, displays of handcraft, floriculture, sewing, canning, baking, cooking, and an extensive art exhibit of works of tenants as well as longer established Clark County artists were arranged. Much artistic talent was discovered, including scenes and portrait studies from all parts of the United States, as well as some foreign works. Several

Probably no other project undertaken by the Vancouver Housing Authority has afforded greater pleasure and satisfaction to the staff members than the Victory Fair. For it gave them the feeling that they had had a part in preserving one of America's oldest and best loved institutions — the County Fair!

Boys and girls living in the neighborhood of Coolidge School, Burlingame, California, raised a vegetable garden in a vacant lot loaned them by an interested neighbor. Another neighbor supplied the garden hose and water.

commercial and club booths were also arranged, and there were exhibits of the Washington State Guard chapter whose headquarters are located on the Heights, the Vancouver Council of Churches, public schools, and other groups.

The exterior of the center presented a festive appearance. American flags as well as festoons of red, white and blue covered one entire side of the building, while vari-colored banners adorned the interior as well as the exterior of the building.

As a first step in organization, early in the spring interest in gardening was created through local and Portland newspapers, radio announcements, series of pictures of the gardens as they progressed published in *The News*—the housing authority weekly distributed free of charge to all project residents—and talks by gardening experts prescribing the care of the soil peculiar to this area.

Approximately eight local labor unions donated funds for operating expenses such as printing, ribbon awards, and publicity. Prizes of $25 war bonds, and $10 and $5 in war stamps, were chosen as first, second, and third prizes for each contest division. Gardens from each housing area were judged separately because of a widely varying fertility of soil in the projects which made fair judging possible only with that ruling. Greater interest was aroused because neighbors were competing with neighbors and enjoyed comparing the progress of their gardens.

Those with very small gardens had equal opportunity with neighbors farming larger plots, since quality of produce alone was judged. Among the divisions were those for best boys' and girls' gardens, those cared for by an entire family, and a section for the best small gardens which averaged 10′ x 10′.

Grand prizes were also given. Vancouver and Portland business concerns donated the prizes.

An especially fine feature was that all workers volunteered their time. Not one among those who planned or executed the enterprise was paid. The judges gave their services; local people as well as tenants served as volunteer workers. The number of "natives" and newcomers who assisted was equal. Members of the long established Vancouver Art group, as well as those in the Garden Club, took an active part, while tenants, too, judged the produce. Members of the county agricultural staff aided in judging the handcraft.

The fair ran for two consecutive days and evenings, and during that time a stage show was pre-

sented every half hour during the day, with two hour performances at night featuring local amateur and professional talent from Vancouver and Portland. A broadcast was made by a local radio station, while the show was in progress, from the Vista Room directly above the gymnasium. An average of 1,800 persons attended each of the evening shows, while a total of 5,000 visited the fair during the two days.

Although persons from throughout the county took part in the fair, the majority of victory gardeners had lived in this area for an average of only six to eight months. Many worked on swing and graveyard shifts. This meant that they sacrificed hours of sleep that they might work in their gardens during the day. A tremendous volume of produce was canned in homes or in the local custom cannery.

Plans are already under way for a "bigger and better" Victory Fair this fall. This year livestock will be included, housed in big tents on the community center athletic grounds, and there will be a large section for the youngsters' pets.

Probably no other project undertaken by the Vancouver Housing Authority has afforded greater satisfaction to the staff members who felt they had had a part in preserving one of America's old institutions—the county fair!

War Housing Victory Gardens

By G. D. WILKINS

Mr. Wilkins, Assistant to the Area Housing Manager, Wichita, Kansas, Federal Public Housing Authority, gives the following information about the development: There are three projects—Planeview, a city of 4,382 units with a population of 20,000; Hilltop Manor, a town of 1,118 units and 5,000 people; and Beechwood, a village containing 500 units with 2,500 residents.

THE RESIDENTS of the three war housing projects in the Wichita Area now have a total of sixty acres of ground under cultivation in their victory garden program. Each project has a resident garden committee whose members have voluntarily taken on the job of managing the garden program for the benefit of all residents. Although the Management of the Federal Public Housing Authority encourages the planting of victory gardens and assists the residents whenever the need arises, the program is exclusively a resident activity. The plotting, plowing, planting, cultivation, and financing are all handled by the resident garden committees and the residents themselves.

The victory garden program is operated in a similar manner on all three projects and the program at Hilltop Manor is typical. The Garden Committee of Hilltop Manor made arrangements to lease forty acres directly south of the project for the sum of $300 per year. The area was plowed at a cost of $200 and then surveyed and divided into individual garden plots at a cost of $60. The individual plots, 50′ x 60′ in size, were subleased for $1.50 per plot to residents who wished to raise a victory garden. In order that the work might progress on schedule, the Resident Council advanced the necessary funds with the understanding that it would be repaid out of the money obtained from the sub-leasing of the plots.

Last year a harvest festival was held at Hilltop Manor as a climax to the victory garden program. Hundreds of residents displayed their canned vegetables and fruits, and the Sedgwick County Home Demonstration Agent judged the exhibit and presented prizes. The enthusiastic crowd that attended this festival saw firsthand results of the victory program and went away with the idea that they should participate in the program the next year.

Again this year, as a follow-up of the garden program, the resident garden committees plan to have a harvest festival in the fall on all three projects, in order

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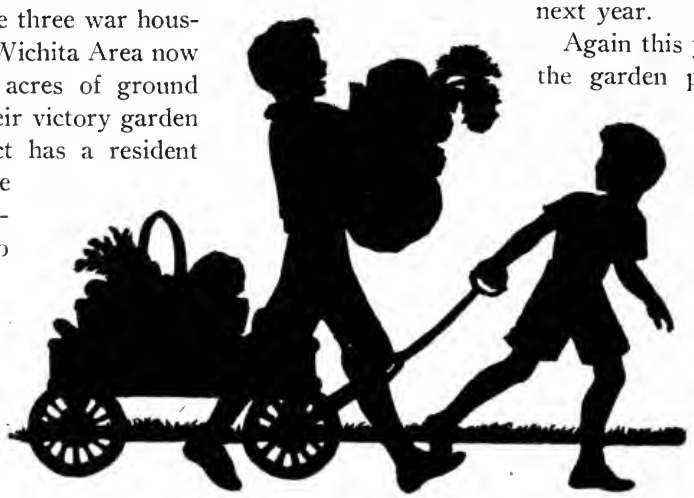

There's a lot of fun in planting and caring for your garden

And a tremendous satisfaction in bringing home the harvest!

Gedge Harmon

Bicycling as a Community Hobby

Courtesy Milwaukee Municipal Recreation Department

By ROLAND C. GEIST

THE SELECTION of a community-wide recreation activity should be based upon many considerations. We suggest here a few of the points to be taken into account:

1. Is the hobby recreational in the sense that it affords a complete change from the regular workaday routine in environment, activity, and other respects?

2. Is it a safe pastime?

3. Is it a healthful outdoor sport for at least the spring, summer, and fall?

4. Is it available to both sexes, as participants?

5. Is it available to both young and old?

6. Is it inexpensive from the individual's viewpoint?

7. Does it require large stadia or fields which are difficult to locate in congested cities?

8. May it be enjoyed strenuously or moderately?

9. May it be enjoyed alone or in groups?

10. Does it require many years of training from expensive professional instructors?

11. May it develop into a later vocational career?

12. Will proficiency in this sport give balance, poise, and similar characteristics that may carry over into other sports and pastimes?

13. Has it possibilities for indoor use which make it enjoyable in unfavorable weather?

14. Is there a great tendency toward professionalism in the hobby which robs it of pleasure value?

15. Is there a thrill of adventure each time the pastime is undertaken?

16. Is there a utilitarian value to the hobby in war or emergency periods?

17. Are there organizations, national or local, that will aid in establishing the hobby?

18. May the hobby be used with an educational aim such as nature study, historical trips, etc.?

19. Is the hobby a continual challenge to learn something new about it?

Mr. Geist, who is the author of the book, *Bicycling as a Hobby,* makes the statement that while much has been written about indoor and outdoor games and similar activities as hobbies, bicycling has received little attention from writers on hobbies. It is his purpose in this article to point out how bicycling may be enjoyed as group recreation in the community program.

20. Is the hobby just a current fad which will vanish in a year or so?

"Bicycling is now about a century old, and it will undoubtedly remain with us for several hundred years more, since it will be a long time before the average man can afford to ride a helicopter! The bicycle is still the world's most efficient vehicle. Twenty-five pounds will support and carry a person weighing 150 pounds on a long trip at very little cost. And after the war we may expect new and lighter alloy bicycles made with mass production methods which will reduce the cost to $15.00 for a bicycle."

Bicycling Measures Up!

Bicycling, in my opinion, meets all of the requirements outlined. A bicycle tour into the country or to another section of our land certainly makes for a change in environment. Cycling is safe if enjoyed on cycle paths and side roads away from congested motor highways. Most of our ball games, such as football and baseball, are enjoyed by our people only as spectators. There are few sports that an individual of fifty or more may enjoy in a leisurely way as much as cycling. There is, too, the point that the art of balancing learned in cycling is helpful in skating, mountaineering, skiing, and similar sports. As for the question of expense, once a wheel is purchased—and it may last for fifty years with proper care—the yearly upkeep is practically nothing. Expensive fields, links, or stadia are not required, and the highways and byways are open to all without tolls. For ordinary cycling a few lessons will train a beginner to become proficient. Trick riding, of course, requires many years of experience, but to the majority of riders bicycling will always be a pleasurable hobby rather than a strenuous training period for a world or Olympic championship.

Cycling, many people will feel, is an individual pastime. While this is true, it may also be a group hobby as in bicycle polo, team races, or formation riding. Its outstanding possibility as a group activity, however, lies in the organization of community bicycle clubs such as Milwaukee's Muni-Bike Club, now more than four years old, which every week brings out old and young when the weather is favorable. To stimulate new bikers to take part in the weekly rides, boys and girls sixteen years and over have recently been invited. Two veterans of the Muni-Bike Club have volunteered to supervise the weekly rides and act as advisers. Special emphasis will be placed on having high school groups come out.

Every bicycle tour, however short, is like a new adventure, for the rider never knows what he will meet—perhaps some old friend or a new scene. Even the same roadway changes with the season and seems to be different.

Nature study groups are using the bicycle with success because so much more ground can be covered in a day, and the silent wheel can creep up on birds and animals and come closer to them than the mechanized vehicles. City history can be quickly and efficiently studied by the use of the bicycle.

A hobby which stems from bicycling is Cyclana or the collecting of all material relating to the bicycle and the sport of cycling. The author has collected such material for over thirty years, and his collection includes over 200 books, periodicals and catalogs, 100 prints dating from Currier and Ives to the present time, 100 old and new posters, five large scrapbooks, three photograph albums, music having to do with bicycling, programs, trophies, maps, models of bicycles, and many other articles. The old-timer can relive the Gay Nineties again with a collection of Cyclana, and gathering the material will make an engrossing activity for a bicycle club.

Lectures on the good old bicycle days will provide a most enjoyable community entertainment, with a dance in the community house to the strains of "Daisy Bell" as a suitable climax.

Let's organize a community bicycle club now. Arrange a meeting, plan a tour, invite everyone—tell your local newspaper about your plans—secure the cooperation of the local bicycle dealer, and make the first affair a real picnic!

Mention has been made of the flourishing bicycle club of Milwaukee promoted by the Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education. In this city legal provision has been made to safeguard the increasing number of cyclists.

On December 20, 1937, an ordinance providing for the registration of bicycles and the establishment of rules governing their operation was passed by the Common Council of the city of Milwaukee. In that year, 15,610 licenses were issued; in 1943, 29,168 were issued.

Since the passage of the ordinance, bicyclists have been stopped and cautioned by police officers for violations of the ordinance or traffic code. When such violations occur a warning card is issued and referred to the Traffic Bureau where it is placed on file. When bicyclists under eighteen years of age have had two previous warning re-

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Design for Fishing—Fun and Food

By LLOYD V. GUSTAFSON
The Duluth Herald and News-Tribune

Duluth, Minnesota, where, about ten years ago, flycasting classes were established in the schools as an extracurricular activity, now sets the pace in another field for the sportsman, angling at home with your neighbors. It's a design for fishing—wholesome, inspiring fun—and for the duration, for food, pink meat instead of red coupons!

NEIGHBORHOOD fishing, with double plays from rearing pond to streams to rationed-bound skillets, is bringing delight to scores in Duluth, Minnesota, this summer.

Doorstep angling wasn't planned for wartime, but it's mighty handy. It is conservation with a brand new twist, providing recreation on the homefront, giving the youngsters an opportunity to get a wholesome treat in the time-honored sport of fishing, providing a chance for busy war workers to get the "tonic of the wilderness" without burning up the gasoline and rubber of their automobiles.

Virtually within a mile's walking distance of any home in Duluth, rod and reel exponents this summer are getting their outings on streams and lakes and eating their fish, too—a unique pleasure in a metropolitan city, 101,065 population as of 1940 census.

Ten streams, all stocked with battling, wary trout, bound over the rocky slopes on which Duluth snuggles against the shores of St. Louis River (largest tributary of the Great Lakes) and Lake Superior. Giving variety to the mode of trout angling are three lake-type sites (those are good-size ponds) and for those who seek diversion in their game, there are three bass ponds and one perch pond. Meandering St. Louis River is the source for a variety of fish including wall-eyed pike, Northern pike, perch and bass and other panfish. "Deep-sea" fishing in Lake Superior for hundreds is still a must avocation to those who enjoy trolling for lake trout.

Duluthians for years have been doing some fishing in urban streams, but catches were getting less frequent each spring and no one seemed concerned about the depletion.

What developed into a municipal fish propagation program through the efforts of city officials, conservation clubs, and a relentless campaign to arouse civic consciousness has set a pattern that has brought inquiries from all sections of the United States.

The story starts with John Hoene, city park superintendent in Duluth. He will tell you that his love of the out of doors has been with him since early boy-

Duluth citizens make the proud boast that their municipal golf course is the only one where you can get a turn at trout angling and at the same time play a game of golf!

hood when he and his brothers would roam the woodlands near their home, explore the hills of Duluth, and go on camping trips. A lakeshore cabin in the depths of the northwoods was the home of the Hoenes during the summer. As long as he can remember, John has been a hand for fishing and hunting. Collecting wood specimens, mounting tree leaves and assembling flower species for study and classification were his delights when other lads would rush away to a movie serial.

When young Hoene matriculated at Cornell University to pursue the study of horticulture, it was to get a more intensive, more scientific approach to his youthful studies in woodlore. But study in the East gave him more than the knowledge from books and the benefits of experiments in camps laboratories. He gained a new perspective on his home town which only distance can bring.

Duluth, at the gateway to the Minnesota Arrowhead Country, one of the major summer resort and outing areas in the nation, for years has drawn thousands seeking the adventure of the woodland trails and northern lakes and streams. Hoene saw his city—Duluth—with its abundance of natural facilities for angling and outdoor recreation right at home, being lost.

"The human animal originally came from the out of doors. When spring begins to move in his bones, he just must get out again. One time, in the spring, our grandmothers used to give us nasty brews from herbs to purify our blood of the winter's corruptions. They knew something was the matter with the boys. They could have saved trouble by giving them a pole, a string and a hook. Some wise ones, among them my own, did just that." — *Herbert Hoover* in *Collier's,* April 22, 1944.

It was his first summer out of college when, as a landscape engineer of the city park department, he began to voice and plan what since has developed. He lost no time in charting his neighborhood fishing program.

Stewart Creek, a turbulent stream which flows out of Magney Park, Duluth's municipal forest on the rocky ridges in the western part of the city, was the first site of operations. More than 400 yearling trout were released in short order into the Creek.

Duluth creeks had been given their "hypos" fingerling trout sporadically over a period of years, but under Hoene's direction, the spring of 1938 found fish propagation activities on an unprecedented scale. In succession, five more streams were restocked that same May. Brook trout, rainbows and speckled, averaging ten inches in length were dumped into pools throughout the gridwork of streams that cleave their courses down the hills.

In Chester Creek, a rapid feeder that tumbles into Lake Superior less than a mile from the center of the city's loop, are two ponds which serve as skating rinks during the winter. Here was a spot that would give flycasters plenty of room to flip their lures. Five hundred 10-inch battlers were released into the creek above the ponds. Embowered in a cup of the gabbro hills overlooking St. Louis Bay, where St. Louis River broadens into the Duluth harbor, are Twin Lakes. Each lake is about 150 feet in diameter and running into the larger pond is a draining creek that bisects one of the two municipally-operated golf courses in Duluth. When Twin Lakes were planted with trout, it was a public ceremony in which the state conservation department and the city park department shared the spotlight. Youngsters who had used the ponds for a swimming hole previously now could come equipped for a day of fishing. Golfers who wanted to tarry on the sixteenth green of Enger Golf Course could take time out from their fairway objectives for a try at angling.

On the opening day of stream trout angling this spring, overenthusiastic adult fishermen launched three canoes on Twin Lakes. The canoeists were requested to remove their craft in order to give the shore anglers an equal chance in their quest of trout.

Largest and most popular trout stream within hiking or bus ride reach of Duluthians is Lester River. Most westerly tributary of the Lester is Amity Creek and then there are the East Branch and West Branch of Lester River. The stream resolves into one course only a quarter of a mile from its mouth on the shores of Lake Superior.

A stone's throw from Lester River and only two blocks from the trolley-bus line that has its terminal in Lester Park is the city's oldest rearing pond. Built by the Izaak Walton League in the 20's, the pond was used for years for bass propagation. Last spring the pond was loaded with yearling trout. On Saturday morning, May 15th, opening of the 1943 stream trout angling season, casting space was at a premium on the concrete walls and rocky banks that encase the pond. In July, the pond was drained and the remaining trout removed to Lester River. Replacing the trout

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The Contribution of Recreation to Morale

By Private TOM WISWELL

Private Wiswell bases his conviction regarding the value of recreation as a morale builder on observations made during his six months in the Army, and, previous to that, during several trips in the Merchant Marine when he visited many USO centers. From all these experiences one thing stands out—and that is the high morale prevailing among the personnel in every part of the war theater.

Private Wiswell is a well-known checker player and author of several books, among them *Let's Play Checkers, Checker Magic,* and *Chess.*

THE CONTRIBUTION that wholesome, well-ordered recreation activity makes to maintaining morale in our armed forces cannot be overestimated. There is no doubt that the high morale which prevails among the personnel is due to the fact that all realize the inevitability of victory, but there are other factors that contribute to this wholesome attitude.

It is our sincere belief that when the smoke of battle has finally cleared and the forces of the United Nations stand triumphant, one of the major factors contributing to our victory will have been recreation and sports activity. In no other major military enterprise in our history has the fighting man been given such splendid facilities for games, sports, and recreation in many varied forms. The USO centers, camp shows, day rooms, and recreation provided by local communities near training camps have all played a vital role in this important phase of our war effort.

In our use of the term "recreation" in this article, we are concerned with such pastimes as chess, checkers, table tennis, bridge, and other games that bring skill into play. These are not games of chance, and it is the player who excels by sheer skill and application who wins.

The writer had the privilege of giving many exhibitions in chess and checkers for servicemen and Merchant Marine sailors, and the interest displayed by these men in such games was a complete revelation. One demonstration was aboard an oil tanker in the Gulf of Mexico for the benefit of able-bodied seamen and members of the "black gang." It was during that difficult period in our war effort when the depredations of the marauding Nazi U-boats were at their high, and yet not a man in this interested gathering gave a thought to the danger so near at hand, so completely absorbed was everyone in the exhibition. It is this freedom from worry for even a short period which helps keep a man going, and refreshes and invigorates him for new ordeals and hardships.

The very ship on which this exhibition had been given was later blown up, and many members of the crew were lost. Among the few articles salvaged by the men were a chessboard and a set of chessmen which the survivors later used to while away the tedious hours of awaiting new orders.

The man in the Army, too, gets a real "kick" out of these old, yet ever new games. The writer has given blindfold checker demonstrations for several hundred men and officers at one time, and the interest displayed has been nothing short of phenomenal. A column of checkers which is run in *The Gas Bag,* our camp paper at Tyson, is eagerly read by the men and sent to comrades overseas in England, North Africa, and Australia.

(Continued on page 274)

They don't wait until they're grown up to enjoy such games as checkers!

Courtesy Chester, Pa., Recreation Board

Still with Us—Youth Centers!

They go on and on—these Youth Centers! And if RECREATION *seems to you to be publishing a great many articles about them, it's merely because there's such a demand from all over the country for more information on the subject. If you've anything to contribute from your experience, we want to hear from you.*

The "Rec"

By JANE PARSONS
New Philadelphia, Ohio

"WOULD YOU MIND telling me where the wreck is?" asked the new art teacher of one of her students as he hurried out of the room.

"Sure. It's up on the corner of Broadway across from the Post Office."

"Yes, but —" but the young man was gone. She turned to the history teacher. "What is the matter with that corner? Every night all the children run out, screaming, 'I'll meet you at the wreck!' Why, I never saw such a town for accidents."

"A wreck? Oh, you mean the 'Rec.'" The history teacher laughed. "Why, that's the recreation center."

"Well, of all things!"

Yes—"well, of all things!" A youth center—a place that belongs to the youngsters exclusively—or almost so, because the older ones are always welcome; we believe in our town that everyone should live together like one big family. And they do at the "Rec," which is an old, large home with twenty-two rooms where anyone from six years up may go for a good time.

In the fall of 1942, ten men and one woman met in the Mayor's office to talk about a crazy idea called a recreation center. They had at their disposal $2,500, and that seemed like a lot of money. After a winter of planning, discussing, scrubbing floors and painting walls, the Youth Center was opened in June 1943. One of the teachers, Vincent Carter, offered his services for the summer months. Things did not run very smoothly. Too many people were rather dubious about the project, and the young people went to other places. School was just around the corner, Mr. Carter had to return, and it seemed as if the board of directors had a South Sea bubble—and that was all. With some misgiving, at Mr. Carter's recommendation they hired a twenty-four-year-old girl who, like all the other young people of New Philadelphia, had roamed the town looking for a place to eat and dance. "Give them a lunchroom and a nickelodeon," she said, "and you'll be surprised." The board took her advice—and *were* surprised! After they had converted one room into a lunchroom, thrown out the hand-operated victrolas and bought a nickelodeon, overnight the membership went to a thousand, with an attendance ranging from 150 to 300 or more a night. Crowded? No, but watch out for your neighbor's toes!

This fall the board of directors, made up of representatives from the service clubs, ministerial association, the P.T.A, school board, and City Council, asked the Community Chest for $3,500 to carry on the work at the center. This group meets once a month at the center to discuss the work that has been done and plan for the future. The young people may appear before them for anything they feel is necessary for the center. A junior board representing the young people is being organized. These ten young people are over seventeen years of age and are chosen from the various churches in town in order to have a wide representation.

What You Can Do at the "Rec"

There are few rules. You must have a membership card, and you must remember that the center is a home, not a barn, and treat it as such. And most important of all, you must respect the rights of others. In order to be a member you ask for an application card, and when it is returned you are given a year's membership without any fee. Members are divided into three

Jane Parsons, author of this story and director of the "Rec," says of herself that she is a preacher's daughter, a graduate of a girls' school, and can fly a plane but is too short and too small to add to the war effort in that respect! So she is making her contribution to the winning of the war by serving at the town's Youth Center.

age groups: 6 to 11, 12 to 15, and 16 up. All activities are scheduled upon this basis.

The children under twelve years of age are permitted to use the building after school, and until 8:00 on certain evenings during the week. Anyone under sixteen must leave at 9:00 for the curfew rings at 10:00 (and they know it's enforced, and parents have to pay for offenders). The older group stays until 11:00 or 12:00.

If you want to loaf, the "Rec" is the place to go to, for there's a loafing room. Dance? Then there's the nickelodeon and a dance floor. Or if you wish just to bang the piano or listen to some future Eddie Duchin—then go to one of the living rooms. There's food, if you are hungry or thirsty, and a radio for your favorite program. For the more active young people there is table tennis and plenty of experts with whom to play. You may join a hobby club, go intellectual with the debate squad or aeronautics class, or find a quiet place to read.

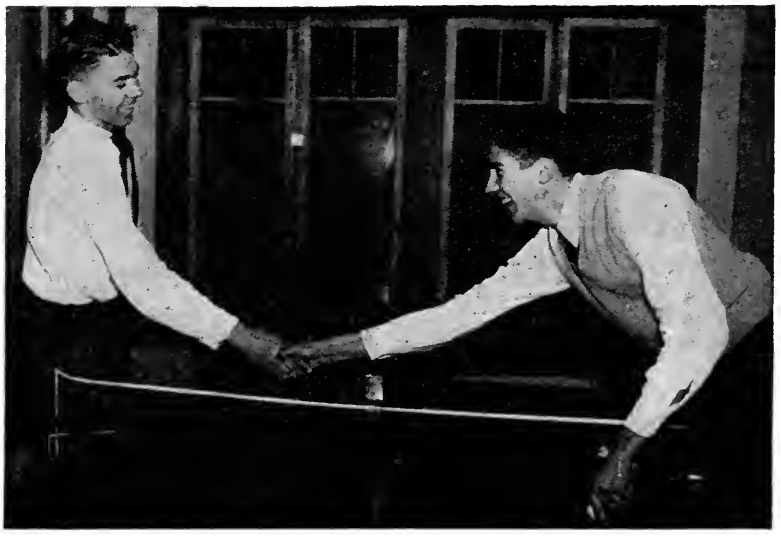
A workshop is open certain hours for boys and girls to make articles for themselves or the center, or to try a little interior decorating or art work. If all this bores you and if you have a penny to spare you may buy the weekly *Rec* and find out when the orchestra is favoring the members with a real dance, or if the "Ramblin' Rec's" won or lost their last basketball game. You can skip the gossip column and the original jokes, if you want to, and read the editorial that expresses the viewpoints of the future voters of New Philadelphia.

Every night of the week various clubs send a member to help in the leadership of the youth center, or give a hand with the clubs. The lunchroom is run completely by volunteers. One of the young people takes care of registration at the front desk or checks coats in or games out, while others wait on tables.

Once a month, with the profit from the lunchroom, a party with "eats" is given to all the members. These are gala events. Younger members come early and play games, while the older ones arrive later to dance—square or jitter. These are not the only parties, for hardly a week goes by that some group, young or old, does not reserve a room for a get-together.

The people who live in New Philadelphia, Ohio, have the comfortable feeling that the next generation is going to find the town a better place to live in because of the "Rec" established on the corner of Broadway!

During the afternoons the building is open to the older groups in town who want to have a meeting or a tea. Anyone may reserve one room in advance, but the building is never closed to the members, being open every day and night of the week, and Sundays after church in the evening.



The "Rec" is not the quietest place in town, but at least there is never a dull moment, and everyone is happy. The citizens of New Philadelphia are very proud of their achievement. Juvenile delinquency? According to the figures it has been cut in half since the opening of the center, and is still going down. For the first year, the police said, they have not had to watch youth gatherings, such as basketball games and dances, and even the pep meetings have been orderly. Each day new parents are added to the group who don't have to worry about their children because they're at the "Rec." And the next generation will see New Philadelphia a better town, because of that "Rec" down on the corner of Broadway!

Torner House Teen-Agers

TORNER HOUSE has become the center for teen age activities in Terre Haute, Indiana, ever since the Recreation Commission first initiated a program for teen age boys and girls in that building last summer. The programs, which consist of dancing, games, and community singing are held two nights each week. Attendance has increased rapidly and the group now totals over 200 members.

A few months after these programs were introduced, the Torner Youth Club was formed and membership cards were issued to all teen age boys and girls who desired them. Not to be outdone, the children under thirteen years of age have formed the Junior Torner Youth Club and their membership cards have the words "junior member" written on them. The "juniors" also have an activity program all their own.

Within the senior youth organization, a boys' club and a girls' club have been organized with separate club rooms. Each club elects officers and holds meetings one night a week. A council composed of five members, president of the boys' club, and president of the girls' club are elected to draw up rules and regulations for the Youth Club.

The boys painted their own club room in the basement and also the girls' club rooms on the second floor of Torner House. The rooms were supplied with furniture given to the Commission by the USO. The boys have started boxing and are also going to the Y.M.C.A. one night each week. Training facilities for boxing have been set up and large groups of boys are taking advantage of them. The night at the "Y" is spent in swimming and the learning of fundamentals of basketball. Practice games have also been played by dividing the boys into groups.

The first project of the Torner Youth Club Council was a Halloween party held last October in Torner House. Everyone who attended was masked and games and dancing were enjoyed by all. Refreshments, too, went over in a big way.

During the fall the boys of Torner House organized a football team, known as the Torner Tigers, which played several games with high school "C" teams and other organized groups. The equipment for this group was furnished by Indiana State Teachers College, Garfield High School, and Gerstmeyer High School.

The last major project of the Youth Council for the year 1943 was the Christmas party held at Torner House. All the members of the Recreation Commission and other people interested in the program were sent invitations—and the turnout was large. The recreation room was decorated with two large Christmas trees donated by the Round Table Study Club, Christmas bells, and red and green crepe paper. The evening was spent in playing games, dancing, and carol singing. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were served.

"Our attack on delinquency must be sustained, not sporadic; it must be concerted, not piecemeal action. Delinquency does not take a vacation, or observe the holidays, or subside on Sunday. We need to intensify our efforts at certain hours and times of the year, but we cannot afford ever to stop them entirely."—*Austin H. MacCormick* in the *Survey Midmonthly*, March 1944.

The Pirates' Den

IN 1939 PARENTS of Anthony, Kansas, youngsters were a little worried. The only recreation facilities in the town of 3,000 were of the commercial variety and these were few. Roadhouses, dance hall and beer "joints" in surrounding towns were attracting teen age boys and girls in too great numbers for the peace of mind of their parents.

But instead of asking the school or other organizations to take over the recreation problems of their children, several mothers banded together, secured permission to use the upper floor of the City Hall as a recreation center, and with the help of the service clubs equipped it with ping-pong tables, miniature pool tables, checkers, dominoes, other games and a juke box for dancing.

High school students de-

signed and installed the decorations. As the high school symbol is a pirate it was only natural that the center be called "The Pirates' Den," and for five years it has been providing wholesome recreation and fun for Anthony's younger set.

The Pirates' Den in Anthony, Kansas, is the upper floor of the City Hall, appropriately decorated by the boys and girls, and equipped by their mothers. It's just a place where parents and children move in for an evening because it's better equipped for fun than is the average home.

A committee of mothers provides supervision and assistance in helping the young people with their fun problems. The "Den" is open each Friday and Saturday evening and after all major school events. During the athletic season players and members of the student bodies of visiting schools are invited as guests. Admission is limited to members of the senior high school student body, but parties are planned for junior high school pupils several times during the year.

There are no dues or fees of any kind. Students provide the nickels for the juke box or, if coins seem a little scarce, members of the committee keep the music going.

If any funds are needed for equipment or decorations the "Mothers' Committee" has little trouble securing all it needs, for Anthony is sold on this effort of parents to provide for some of the recreational and amusement needs of their children.

Rules of the Parent and Student Committee are simple—students are expected to have fun and to observe the rights of others. A few quiet suggestions have taken care of most of the problems which have arisen.

The unique features of the Pirates' Den are that it was one of the first of such centers in the state and most important of all — it was created not by organizations to help take care of the "youth problem," but by parents who were interested in and willing to help with the recreational problems and welfare of their own children and those of their neighbors. The Anthony Pirates' Den is not just another youth organization—it is parents and children moving for the evening to a location which is better equipped for fun than is the average home.

There's an Idea Behind the "Paper Doll"

FOR YEARS, people who understand public relations have been advising all recreation departments to do two things: (1) offer activities that fill current needs; (2) make a steady effort to widen the circle of people who know what the recreation department is doing.

Rules and advice are always a bit abstract. Now, suddenly, along comes a recreation trend that makes the general, abstract advice graphic. Do we mean "youth centers"? We do.

Iowa City's "Paper Doll" is an excellent example.

Every good recreation director's dream of

The Recreation Department of the Hamtramck, Michigan, Public Schools has opened a teen age club center equipped with a juke box, table tennis, and other games. Although many of the young people are serving in the armed forces, participation in the recreation program by this age group is greater than it has ever been.

Iowa City, Iowa, is a community of 17,000 people which is looking after its young people. The story of the "Paper Doll," the city's Youth Center, is food for thought — and action.

achievement probably includes that of having one of his city's leading lights comment: "I've never seen anything like the way the high school crowd is taking to that new idea over at the recreation center—'dry night club,' isn't it? Don't they call it the 'Paper Doll'? When I heard they had seven hundred members last week, I went over one night and checked up. They've got that many people in the club and more, and the youngsters are having such a good time it's a pleasure to watch the fun.

"I knew they had some interesting activities over at the center, and I always thought that the recreation program was a good idea, but I always had the feeling that the center was a place where the boys and girls in town who didn't have any better place to go went for a little fun. This Paper Doll business has made an impression on the whole town. The parents in every neighborhood really appreciate it."

This conversation actually took place. The man who said it not only knows people in town, he knows the town. His business is knowing what the public thinks and how it reacts.

Iowa City's Paper Doll is young. Today it has a thousand members. By May it may have only fifty. However, whether it lasts six months or six years, it would seem to furnish a valuable idea for getting recreation participation.

Not that the idea of Friday and Saturday teen age dances was new to Iowa City. One of the first programs introduced by J. Edgar Frame, when he came to the university town two years ago as director of recreation, was to inaugurate 7 to 11 o'clock dances on Friday and Saturday nights.

As now, the dances took place in the gym. As now, tables (built by boys in the craft classes) bordered the dance floor. As now, there was a place that sold snacks. The room was decorated. The lights were low.

During this time, however, it was just a popular Friday and Saturday night diversion at the recreation center. Then, on January 9th, it made headlines, not only in the papers in Iowa City, but in Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, and other near-by cities.

"Nearly 400 Crowd Paper Doll." . . . "Dry Night Club Opens with Success at Recreation Center." . . . "Dry Nighterie for Juveniles at Iowa City." . . . "High Schoolers Enjoy Own Night Club." . . . "Snack Bar at Paper Doll Popular Spot."

The Iowa City *Press-Citizen* even editorialized under the title, "By and For the Youngsters." To quote:

> "Friday evening, there will open in Iowa City a night club for youngsters of high school age—which fact leads us to comment that perhaps now we're getting some place. Too often, it seems, people are too ready to condemn young people for their attitudes and antics, overlooking as they do, some of the reasons that contribute to the situations that may arise. While there are many things that go into the make-up of a healthy attitude on the part of youth, among them the very great and important influence of the home, *one may well single out the provision of proper recreation facilities as one of the most important.* The Paper Doll, the new dry night club, will be one of the youngsters, by the youngsters, and for the youngsters. Our congratulations to J. Edgar Frame, Recreation Center Director, for sponsoring this project, and to the City Council for giving its full approval."

"Of the youngsters, by the youngsters, and for the youngsters" indicates one of the main reasons for the headlines. It is not the only reason.

Early in November, a number of the youngsters hunted Mr. Frame up in the game room where he was repairing a billiard table.

"Quite a crowd of kids are circulating a petition," a tall blonde handball expert told him. "We all want a club of our own."

Director Frame took over the loud speaker before intermission. He told the dancers he'd heard about their petition and invited all those interested to a meeting during intermission. At the meeting, the teens talked. Mr. Frame listened. He advised them to form an acting committee. He suggested they elect representatives from all the schools and from all the different cliques in the different schools. "Be

"The worker with youth cannot isolate young people and their problems from the total community picture. Therefore it is often necessary to work on phases of the community problem which, at the time, seem unrelated to the problems of youth. The worker is also aware that recreation for youth is not a panacea and that even when youth specify particular activities which they want, there are usually other underlying needs that are brought out through participation and study. Recreation is often the first step toward solving these unmet and unexpressed needs and desires of youth."— From the *Progress Report* of the Wayne County, Michigan, Youth Guidance Committee.

sure to include everyone," he advised them. "You want this an all-high-school affair. Get the noisy ones, the quiet ones, the bold ones, and the retiring. You want them all."

They got them.

Another meeting of all the representatives followed. Officers were elected. The president and secretary are both girls, but there are plenty of boys on the Junior Council (the name chosen for the governing body of the club). Of the twelve council members, in fact, eight are boys.

With the help of Director Frame, the approval of the Recreation Commission, schools, and parents was secured. A curfew had been passed which ordered children under sixteen off the streets at 10:30. Many high schoolers were under sixteen. The City Council was approached, gave its approval of Friday night hours of 7 to 11 and Saturday night hours of 7 to 11:30. A juke box was installed. Everything was set but the "club" atmosphere.

Courtesy New Philadelphia, Ohio, Youth Center

What provides the "glamour" for the Paper Doll?

The decoration committee went into a huddle and came out with—crepe paper! But their crepe paper idea is "clubby," scientific, and permanent. It's a centerpiece, Hollywood size, built on a wooden base that does a thorough job of concealing center gym lights and is a substitute for the old crepe-paper streamers flaring out to the walls. Friday afternoons, it takes three or four high school "huskies" only a little while to hoist the centerpiece up to the gym ceiling by a rope arrangement. Once in place at night, the Paper Doll's as different from the gym dance of 1930 as the Rainbow Room is from a cafeteria. But the "glamour" is strictly crepe paper . . . and dimmed lights.

And the "bar." The original dance had a snack stand, as mentioned before. But even its creators admit it was nothing like its Paper Doll successor. The Refreshment Committee of the Junior Council had a single urge What they wanted was a b-a-r. They got it. A dad who carpenters for a profession concocted a blonde wood creation that's a pleasure to step up to. Total cost: $23.

Signs back of the bar do the job of "menus" at one stroke. They're strictly Golden Bantam. The list carries the heading: "For those and them still on the bottle." Another sign reads: "Great big hot dog—10 cents." And there's a drawing of an animated frankfurter with a wise look and a curly tail. Primer printing spells out: "This is a dog." Another sign heading runs: "Sure We Got"—and proceeds to list "Tater Chips," and other refreshments.

Even Friday nights, between 7 and 9:30, when junior high people are guests at their special dance hours, President Shirley Jackson and Secretary Laura Vandenburg are the "hired help" who find out what the boys in the short pants want and serve forth hot dogs, pop, cokes, popcorn, and candy.

The council members are a hard working lot. It was they who decided the club should have a name. It was they who wore themselves out concocting one. They issue membership cards and see everyone's card who enters for each dance. Once a month there's dancing to a real five-piece orchestra ($5 a "piece") instead of the juke box. Besides dancing, there's the game room. With its billiard tables, table tennis, and every imaginable game, it's always patronized. Newest development is a

club gossip sheet ("blab sheet"—to quote a junior member).

That's just about the story of the Paper Doll anyway you track it down. Question Recreation Director Frame. Ask the young members. Three attractions seem to make all the difference: The fact that it's a club with membership cards and a council. The juke box and real orchestra. The "bar."

Does the Paper Doll have any general advice to offer? For snack supplies, keep track of every item, even miscellaneous small purchases. Director Frame acts as what he terms "flunky poster" for the books. He tabulates coke, pop, etc., as it's delivered. A Council member checks on-hand supplies before business and after the evening is over. If strawberry pop doesn't sell well, inquiries are put to customers. Future stock is set up accordingly. The Paper Doll tried sandwiches; found them difficult and unsuccessful. Hot dogs are a big success. Most profitable supplies are pop, popcorn, candy.

There's the story of the recreation idea that made headlines, got 1,000 members, brought brand-new people to the recreation center, awakened parents and the community to the recreation program. Is it a clue to securing other recreation participation?

Granted that participation should develop naturally and genuinely, would recreation hasten this development by tuning in on current trends a bit more? Do even adults respond more readily to something that's made a bit of a game? Do we all react unconsciously to the way a package (or idea) is wrapped up?

Business follows a steady principle: It offers people what they want. It sometimes goes to great lengths to survey what people want. Right now recreation is doing a fine job of offering teens what they want. Could it do an equally interesting job, perhaps, of offering the sub-teens, girls, and adults what they want?

Helping Youth to Help Themselves

By ETHELWYN G. CORNELIUS

ITHACA, NEW YORK, a community of 20,000 people, has, along with many other cities, awakened to the needs of teen-agers.

From a survey conducted by the Ithaca Youth Council and observations of many adults in daily contact with the boys and girls, evidence came to light that a real need existed for a place which the teen-agers could call their own. A number of civic organizations were interested in helping these young people, and meetings were held to discuss ways and means. The American Legion then came forward with the offer of a recreation hall.

The next step was getting organized. A senior

The school band is a much appreciated feature of the program at La Cabana every Friday night

board was formed, composed of representatives from the Youth and Service Council, Ithaca women's clubs, and the schools, with the American Legion and Auxiliary as sponsor. Each member of this board has a definite responsibility, but it acts mainly in an advisory capacity. A junior board was then set up in the senior and junior high schools, and its members took on the job of planning, organizing and carrying on the club which by this time had a name chosen by the boys and girls—La Cabana.

Junior board members and their friends worked long hours to get the club started, while the money, the furniture, and the overhead expenses were provided by the senior board. After several weeks of making curtains, painting walls and murals, locating the juke box and records, fixing the soda bar, La Cabana became a reality.

Opening night attracted a capacity crowd. The school swing band provided the music, refreshments were sold out, and everyone had a wonderful time. About 300 teen-agers were present. This is the usual attendance, although on some nights the number drops to around 100.

The junior board is gradually working out house rules and membership regulations. A nominal fee of twenty-five cents a month is charged for membership. At present the club is open on Friday nights from 7:30 to 11:30, Saturday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:30, and Saturday nights from 7:30 to 12:00. The band plays every Friday night while on Saturdays the juke box, games and special programs hold sway.

A chaperon system has been worked out with the help of the senior board, and one or two adults are at La Cabana each night. Many people in the town have helped the boys and girls by donating money, helping them find the things they need, giving their services, and standing behind them in every way.

Ithaca is really doing something to meet the needs of its youth, and everyone in the community is proud of La Cabana and of the boys and girls who are running it "on their own."

"You will get a thrill out of our new Youth Center," writes F. R. Burlson, Secretary of the Kankakee, Illinois, Chamber of Commerce. "We call it the 'Circus.' The ceiling of the long room has been painted to resemble a tent; the side walls are decorated with circus posters, with imitation cages; the raised platform for dancing represents a circus ring, and the soft drink bar at the end of the room resembles a big base drum lying on its side. One small front room has become a game room and a second room will serve as a crafts workroom.

"To insure the interest of parents we have organized a Big Top Club which will contribute liberally toward the remodeling and maintenance of the Center. In addition to these gifts and some miscellaneous income, we now have $6,000 a year from the Community Chest."

Recreation for Negro Youth

By LINA TYLER
Recreation Supervisor
Flint, Michigan

FLINT, MICHIGAN, only a few months ago faced a definite challenge in providing wholesome recreation for Negro youth in that city. The Recreation Department took up the challenge and provided a prompt answer — a series of informal dances planned by and for Negro teen-agers.

The Department has two colored community houses: one is located on the north side of the city where eighty-five per cent of all Negroes in Flint live, and the other is located on the south side.

Negro high school youths had no definite spot to dance—a place which they could call their own for their age group alone. With the help of the colored workers, the Recreation Department suggested that a Negro Youth Council be formed consisting of some of the key colored youths in both communities.

The first council meeting took place at the Clifford Street Community House on January 7th where plans for the first dance to be held January 21st were made. This was to be an invitation affair with the names and addresses submitted by council members and the age limit ranging from 16 to 20 years. The first and third Friday of every month were reserved as the regular dance schedule with dancing from 9 to 12 o'clock. The music was provided through the Junior Chamber of Commerce which purchased a juke box for the Community House.

The first affair was a huge success. One hundred invitations were sent out, and each person who was invited was asked to bring the invitation along. Ninety-five were returned.

The second dance was known as the "Coat Hanger Dance," as a new coat rack had been built but no metal hangers were available. Everyone attending the dance was asked to bring one coat hanger. By this

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A Playground in the Jungle

By Private CHARLES ZABIN

HOW WERE our servicemen with so little military training able to adapt themselves so quickly and readily to military life? How, with less than a year of such training in many cases, has it been possible for them to face an enemy who has built up the fighting spirit of their men over a long period of years?

One answer which explains this remarkable adaptability on the part of our men may be found in what American educators call "carry-over values"—the quality developed through our recreation and sports program by which essentials are developed by participants in one activity which may be carried over to another activity of a different kind. American coaches have for years taught our boys on the football field ways of outmaneuvering their opponents, how and where to strike, and where the weak points of the opposing team lie. These tactics are being carried from the football field to the battlefield.

Other sports, if analyzed, would prove to have values essential to combat. Even in the simple game of Throw and Catch, coordination and accuracy, both important in war, are highly developed. Hide and Seek, played so often in our childhood, has taught us the importance of silence, discipline, and something of the art of camouflage. Thus through our play certain skills essential in meeting the present emergency have been developed.

When a serviceman is in training or fighting he is greatly in need of keeping fit through games and sports, and facilities for recreation are important. "How can I play games," the serviceman often asks, "if there are no facilities?"

This question was answered by the work of the Special Service Officer and the men of the 14th Evacuation Hospital when they made a playground in the jungle. The immediate and very important job, to be sure, was to set up a hospital, but the completion of this was followed by the building of a two block square athletic field. Through a towering cluster of trees a powerful "cat" paved the way for our field. In a short time we had cleared and leveled a surface which looked like nothing more than a large parking lot. But through the resourcefulness of the Special Service Officer and the men working with him the jungle playground was completed.

In the course of their construction work these men performed prodigious feats! Tree trunks and bamboo poles were used as supports in making volley ball, basketball, and badminton courts. It was suggested that long, thin bamboo strips placed horizontally on the ground and joined vertically by strings, leaving one inch between the strips, would make good nets. As it happened we had enough rope for the boxing ring, so the suggestion that long, flexible vines might be held together by short strips of rope was not acted upon. The softball field was laid out according to official rules and occupied a large portion of the field. An outdoor stage was built for plays and was in use soon after the men arrived. The one facility which our athletic field lacked but which will be constructed soon is a miniature golf course. This could easily be made from scrap pieces found around the field. One inch thick branches, V-shaped at the end, could be used as clubs, and almost anything round and hard, as balls.

The screen for movies was set up on a higher level off the athletic field so that it could be easily seen by all.

One of the most important features comprising the recreation layout was our day room. A native built basha divided by a partition gave us two sections—one to be used as a library and study, the other as a quiet game room. At present, bridge and table tennis tournaments are the chief attractions.

With the recreation facilities completed, our Special Service Officer organized the personnel of the camp to compete in various sports. Ward technicians, cooks, motor pool men, supply men, and others were organized into teams competing in intraleague sports. The greatest event was our athletic field day when the entire field was dotted with sun tanned bodies engaging in volley ball, basketball, badminton, horseshoe pitching, table tennis, and other games. The work of the hospital was so arranged that a number of men might take part at one time without affecting hospital routine. Awards were made, and everyone had a wonderful time. As far as it is possible more of these field days will be introduced into the program as time goes on. The enthusiasm and interest of the

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A Boy...A Water Wheel...And a Dream!

IT WORKED! Perhaps no youngster had ever seen a more beautiful sight. . . . Over a little dam spilled the water of the country ditch. The homemade water wheel began to turn on its rake-handle shaft. Faster and faster it went. Next step was to connect it to an old coffee mill inside the woodshed.

Pebbles were poured into the churning mill. They sparked and crackled like a Fourth of July display, grinding noisily into sand to be used later for a casting mold.

Here in this water wheel was the first moving device ever created by Henry Ford!

Meantime, somewhere inside his inquiring mind, a dream was struggling to shape itself. A dream of other wheels that would one day turn to lighten the burdens of farm and industry . . . to change the transportation habits of the nation.

Down through the years, from water wheels to watches, to steam engines, to gasoline engines, Henry Ford's lively interest in wheels progressed. And the rest is history—the history of America's great automobile industry.

From that day in May 1895, when the first Ford car was wheeled into Bagley Avenue, Detroit, more than 30,000,000 Ford-built cars and trucks have been produced.

Yet the thought and spirit that prompted that long-ago experiment with the water wheel have never changed at Ford Motor Company. There is still the same ingenuity that is not afraid to be

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Promoting Employee Recreation

By ORVAL C. HUSTED
Public Relations
Tube Turns, Inc.

Promoting good times and neighborliness among industrial workers through the medium of good fellowship clubs may be nothing new, but it is being used so successfully by employees of Tube Turns, Inc., in Louisville, Kentucky, that we are passing on their experience for the benefit of similar groups throughout the country.

IN THE SUMMER of 1943, the situation facing the management of Tube Turns was not unlike that confronting numerous other small industrial concerns suddenly finding themselves with hundreds of new employees. In a city adjacent to several military posts, and with a civilian population influx of 5,000 a month, employee spare time recreation was beginning to become a real problem.

Believing that recreation of the right sort was necessary to provide employees with new interests to replace the old and to take their minds off the war, the company took the first step and hired a full-time recreation director. That was last July. From then on management has kept in the background.

An executive committee of twenty members was elected to hold office for a year, thus giving the whole set-up a democratic status from the start. This group's suggestion for the organization of small departmental units to be known as Good Fellowship Leagues was enthusiastically received and resulted in the formation of seventy-two such groups. Each of these units has its own constitution, its own fees, and its own recreational and get-acquainted affairs. Some have had picnics, skating parties, and dances. Parties have been given for men going into the service, and for employees transferring to other work.

To provide an informal occasion for becoming really acquainted with the fellow who works three machines down the aisle, or with the foreman, has been the central idea in each case. The fact that each unit is free to carry out its own ideas is considered a contributing factor in the success of the plan. This is an employee program which belongs to the group and is not the director's responsibility alone.

The Athletic Program

When the word "recreation" is mentioned there is often a tendency to think of athletics. As in many such programs, athletics does have a prominent place in the employee recreation program. Tube Turns teams have been active in both intra-plant contests and in city industrial leagues, but the program is by no means limited to sports.

An event of considerable interest this past winter has been the departmental basketball tournament in which the company championship team was picked. So many table tennis stars developed in the plant recreation room that it took weeks to play off the tournament and pick the winners of the cups which the company offered for the best players.

City-wide attention this winter has been attracted to bowling, in which Tube Turns teams have taken a leading part. Early-bird alleys are reserved from 10 A. M. until noon for men working the night shifts. Other reservations have been made for nearly every evening of the week. On Wednesdays eighteen inter-departmental teams have reservations, and on Fridays ten women's teams bowl. Interest is so great that whole families spend the evenings boosting their favorite pinsters.

For those who enjoy golf, softball, horseshoes, tennis, volley ball, and badminton, plans are being carefully worked out with the city Recreation Council and the Park Board in order to make the most use of available facilities.

Sports Only One Feature

Only one phase of the Recreation Council's activities, however, is covered by the athletic phase of the program. The need for relaxation is also being met in other ways. Some of the men who like to sing have organized a glee club. Negro men have gone one better by having both a glee club and a quartet, the latter being frequently heard over the radio. A fifteen piece dance orchestra is the special pride of Tube Turns swingsters. These groups choose their own directors, in keeping with the democratic idea of the good fellowship leagues.

A current activity being sponsored by one group is an open city-wide jitterbug contest. The Council

has given the league members two free skating parties financed through the proceeds of the three big Christmas dances necessary to accommodate company personnel.

A weekly Tube Turns night is being arranged at the Y.M.C.A., featuring a cold picnic supper and a dance to be followed by swimming in the Y pool. While membership fees and admissions finance many of the activities, the company buys sports equipment and awards.

Recreation Director Bob Howell is quick to explain that no man would get to first base in sponsoring such a diversified program if it were not for the interest shown by the seventy-two good fellowship units, and the cooperation of his council.

It is very encouraging that in increasing numbers industrial plants are sending us information about their recreation programs for publication in the magazine. We hope that many more such reports will be received.

It may be of interest to some of our readers to know that a new edition of the booklet, *Recreation for War Workers*, with some revision, has been published under the title, *Recreation for Workers*. Copies are available at fifty cents from the National Recreation Association.

Results of the first eight months of this recreation program only confirm the company's conviction that men and women cannot put forth their greatest effort in their work without some relaxation of the type which renews strength, and the kind of play which re-creates. The best worker is the worker given the opportunity to find pleasure in simple things — clean play, music, dancing, pleasant conversation, and good friendship.

At Chase Brass Company in Waterbury, Connecticut, the Foremen's Club sponsors an employee recreation program which includes basketball, bowling, and noon-hour movies. There is also a rifle range, golf course and country club.

Tickets go on sale for an event sponsored by Good Fellowship Leagues at Tube Turns

New York's Handcraft Exhibit

3,000 boys and girls took part in New York City's Handcraft Contest, and approximately 29,000 viewed the exhibits

ARTICLES for the home, toys and games, generally useful articles and hobbies were the main divisions at the Handcraft Contest sponsored by the New York Department of Parks and the New York Community Trust. Juniors, 8-11 years; Intermediates, 12-14 years; and Seniors, 15-17 years each devoted one booth to all four of the above categories.

In preparation for the city-wide show, five individual borough exhibitions were held, preceded by thirty-one district displays. There were 15,000 visitors to the district exhibitions, approximately 9,000 to the borough exhibits, and 5,500 persons viewed the city-wide exhibit at Education Hall of the Museum of Natural History.

Junior articles for the home exhibit included rugs, luncheon sets, picture frames, waste baskets, etc. In the toy division an elaborate puppet stage, complete with puppets, was on display. Hobbies showed a definite interest on the part of boys toward model aircraft, and dolls for the girls.

The largest number of articles were those produced by the intermediate group. Included here were footstools, ash trays, rugs, picture frames, lamps, and other articles of furniture. Leather purses and belts, wooden notebook covers, and luncheon sets were also on display. In the hobby division, planes predominated and there

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A Nature Fair in Houston, Texas

A NATURE FAIR, sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department of Houston, Texas, in cooperation with the Houston Outdoor Nature Club and other civic organizations, proved a successful and unique event last year.

The fair marked the opening to the public of a permanent nature trail in Hermann Park, and the reopening of the Museum of Natural History. During the period of the fair there were conducted tours through the Zoo, and a number of exhibits were on view. These included exhibits at the Garden Center in Hermann Park of nature collections and crafts arranged by the children either as individuals or in groups; similar entries from adults, who were not, however, eligible for awards; feature exhibits prepared by the Outdoor Nature Club and local garden clubs; exhibits by the Parks and Recreation Department and various governmental agencies interested in natural history and conservation; and commercial exhibits connected with the theme of the fair.

At the Garden Center there were such events and activities as moving pictures on nature and conservation, nature games for children, star gazing through a telescope, woodcraft demonstrations, and a session of nature lore and song around a huge campfire.

The program of the fair reads as follows:

Friday, November 19—Opening Day

2:00 to 10:00	Exhibits Open—Garden Center Building
2:00 to 6:00	Conducted tours of Nature Trails, Zoo and Museum
7:00 to 10:00	Skies Through a Telescope—Garden Center
8:00 to 10:00	Outdoor Movies—Garden Center
8:00	OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONIES—Garden Center
8:30	Campfire Singing—Garden Center

Saturday, November 20

2:00 to 10:00	Exhibits Open—Garden Center Building
2:00 to 6:00	Conducted tours of Nature Trail, Zoo and Museum
3:00	Nature Games—Garden Center
4:00	Woodcraft Demonstrations—Garden Center

Gedge Harmon

7:00 to 10:00	Skies Through a Telescope—Garden Center
7:00 to 10:00	Outdoor Movies—Garden Center
8:00	Campfire Singing—Garden Center

Sunday, November 21

2:00 to 10:00	Exhibits Open—Garden Center
2:00 to 4:00	Casting Tournament—Casting Pool
2:00 to 6:00	Conducted tours through Nature Trail, Zoo, Museum
7:00 to 10:00	Skies Through a Telescope—Garden Center
7:00 to 10:00	Outdoor Movies—Garden Center
7:00	Campfire Singing—Garden Center

Nature Exhibit Contest

In the nature exhibit contest, which was open to any child or youth attending the public or private schools in the Houston Independent School District or connected with any playground group or Boy and Girl Scout troop, exhibits were entered in the following classes:

Group A. Collections. Insects (except butterflies and moths); butterflies and moths; insect galls; shells, pressed plants; twig, wood, seed or fruit collection; abandoned bird nests; rocks, minerals or fossils; all other collections.

Group B. Living Plants or Animals. Insects; aquaria or microcosms; terraria; vertebrate animals; wild flowers; germinating plants; plants growing in nutrients (without soil); plant experiments; other living plants; other living animals.

Group C. Nature Crafts and Activities. Bird houses and feeding stations; other homemade equipment such as aquaria, terraria, weather stations; telescopes; photographs; paintings, drawings and scrapbooks; plaster casts; leaf prints; mushroom spore prints; star maps and planetaria; models and diorama; all other nature crafts; reports on nature activities such as clubs, construc-

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Handicraft House Pioneers in Recreation

By AGNES KNOX MUTCHLER
Director, Handicraft House
Regina, Canada

FOR SOME TIME we of the Regina Recreation Department had felt the need of community playrooms where the children of our city could have opportunity for play with leadership. With the congestion and conditions brought about by the industrial situation, this need became a necessity.

We were fortunate in having a foundation laid by the work of our physical director, Robert Coleman, who three years ago pointed out to the aldermen on the Parks Committee and the Parks Board that when the playgrounds were closed before the skating rinks had been opened many children had no place except the streets in which to play. He began the program very modestly in a small vacant building which he equipped as a sewing room and woodworking shop. The children were definitely interested, especially in the woodworking, and the following year arts and crafts were added.

When it was discovered that the children continued to come to the center even when the rinks were open, the aldermen thought things over. For some reason athletics and recreation had been synonymous in their minds. Of course they had made a concession to the odd bookworm by establishing a series of children's libraries, but children wanting in large numbers to use their hands in creative imaginations were new in their experience!

Soon it became necessary to move into new quarters, and we were given a floor in what was known as the Relief Building in downtown Regina. The need for relief work was fortunately decreasing, and soon Handicraft House occupied a second floor. Two new departments were added—music and drama—and in the spring of 1943 we were given a director, and the staff ceased to be employed on a seasonal basis.

We are strictly a taxpayers' organization under the Recreation Department of the Parks Board, which fortunately has a sympathetic understanding of our objectives in children's recreation. One of these is to do something for the children of Mr. John Citizen who may be duffers artistically, but accomplishing this is something of a battle at the present time because the materials we would like to use are unobtainable and it is necessary for us to find inexpensive things with which to work.

Our children come from every school in the city. They feel that Handicraft House is theirs, and they are learning within its four walls to express themselves in the various arts and crafts. In the art department, devoted to painting and drawing, the children with brown paper, charcoal, and tempora paints make pictures of things they have seen and stories they have heard or made up. Many who come have little or no talent, but in expressing themselves through this medium they are as happy as their more talented neighbors.

About a hundred children a week, chiefly boys, attend this department for the two and a half days a week it is open. We hope before long to have an exhibit of the children's work, though the really important exhibit is one which may be seen every day—a group of children busy working and having fun, satisfying their creative urge through color and line.

The war and the pocketbook of the average citizen have more or less dictated the crafts we teach. Many of the materials are off the market and others are too expensive to be supplied free, so we reached the decision to use material now available in Saskatchewan and have reduced our crafts to two—weaving and clay.

For weaving we use the cotton threads still available and provide opportunity for those children who love color and design but who are not particularly original and want, for a time at least, to work with other people's designs. The child who is talented finds plenty of scope in working with the clay available in the Province. The articles made are colored with tempora and have a fairly successful quick glaze, which makes them waterproof. The work is crude for the most part, but it is our hope that the children will become sufficiently interested to form a nucleus of individuals who will demand a pottery industry for the Province, making it unnecessary to import workers

"There is nothing extraordinary about what has been done in our city," says Mrs. Mutchler, "but we have done some pioneering and it is harder to establish a precedent than to follow one. If any part of our experience can be helpful to some other community, we shall be happy to be of assistance."

as is now being done for even the most rudimentary jobs.

The drama room has been most successful. The children first play charades, and from that activity it is an easy step to acting stories they have had read to them or made up about historical characters or people in other lands. They set their stage, make their props in the woodworking room, and their decorations in the art room. As many as sixty children have attended the sessions.

"We must do our utmost to develop in every child the peculiar individual power that makes him a person. We must teach him to know the thrill of creation. . . . It is by doing the thing he likes, the thing that is an expression of his inner self, the thing that allows his creative power to function, that the child gets an appreciation of his own strength." — *Angelo Patri.*

After 8:30 the room is given over to older children who do script work, rehearse plays by recognized dramatists, and learn the fine points which make drama an art. Most of these youngsters will find happiness in the little theater when they are grown up.

In the music and dancing department the children have choruses, rhythm bands, dancing, and musical games. The teaching is all done in groups. At present a minstrel show is in rehearsal which the older boys and girls are greatly enjoying. Studio nights are held in both these departments so that the children may perform before audiences.

We have introduced an innovation this year in the teaching of

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Courtesy Mary Meighen, Escanaba, Michigan

Photographed by Bill Puckelwartz
Cut loaned by Childhood Education

Hobbies as Recreation for Older People

By PHILIP L. SEMAN

Dr. Seman, General Director of the Jewish People's Institute of Chicago, and Chairman of the Chicago Recreation Commission, stresses the fact that the problem of providing recreation for the aged is one which must be given thoughtful attention by all interested in recreation. He points to hobbies as one possible solution.

THE OTHER DAY a physician friend of mine said that it is highly desirable for one to acquire a hobby as intense and as all-absorbing as one's vocation or profession This will add health and certainly will prove of tremendous value to all those who, after they reach the age of retirement, unless they have something definite to live with, find life very boresome.

I recall some twenty-five years ago when we were working on locating a site for a camp for the youngsters of our community center, I found it necessary to stay over to rather a late hour in a small village near the site which we finally selected, and had occasion to chat with an old gentleman who, at the age of eighty, was still carrying a mail bag from the drugstore to the station and back, three times a day. When I asked him why at his age it was necessary for him to continue so difficult a task, he smiled and said: "If I were to give up this job I would die. This is what keeps me alive, and I have been interested in this activity for a long, long time. As a matter of fact, it is a great joy for me every time I carry this bag from the drugstore to the train and from the train to the drugstore, to know that the letters I carry will in most instances bring joy to the receivers. I dream of these things."

A year later, when we opened our camp, I was rather shocked to learn of the death of my aged friend. When I asked the reason for his death, aside from old age, the answer was this: John G's children insisted upon his retiring. Death came within a few weeks.

Physicians Have Hobbies

Some time ago I had occasion to visit what was the first hobby show put on by the Chicago Medical Society. It proved a most successful affair. In spite of the blizzard which raged that evening, more than 200 persons attended the dinner which preceded the opening of the show, and over 800 interested spectators visited the exhibits from 6:00 P. M. until midnight. The exhibits were diversified and enlightening, and a spirit of good fellowship prevailed.

This exhibit included the hobbies of some of the outstanding medical men in the city of Chicago. One of the doctors exhibited archery bows and arrows made by himself; another, 350 souvenir spoons that he collected from all over the world; a third, a schematic drawing of a hobby-horse demonstrating his various hobbies. There were pictures of hunting and fishing trips, the head of a mountain sheep, a wall-eyed pike, and similar exhibits. One doctor had an exhibit of words and music composed by himself; still another had a collection of etchings. Another showed pictures of lawn bowling, and balls.

There were a number of very interesting stamp collections; an exhibit of Chinese pottery and child portraiture; birds' eggs, together with pictures of birds; wood sculpture and photography; live rabbits and furs; caricatures of Viennese professors and modern portraits; Philippine weapons; pyrography; cabinet work, drawings and cartoons; medical history exhibited through the medium of medallions; a dollhouse, plaster work, wood carving, statues, a coach and four; a neglected chapter in the history of anatomic illustration, anatomical manikins of French, German and Italian construction—period 1700 to 1800; interior rummaging and decorating; doll furniture; copper etchings; coin collections; oil paintings and statues; portraits and engravings of doctors; old books on ear, nose, throat, and acoustics; a specially constructed phonograph; pictures of distinguished sons and daughters of medical women, and many, many other exhibits.

There is a story told of a well-known university president, who, after a lecture in a strange town, was left alone until train time with only an aged janitor. "If you don't mind a modest home," the janitor suggested, "I would be proud to have you wait at my place. You might like to see my pictures." There was eagerness in the old voice, and not knowing how to refuse, the president accepted. He visualized a plush-covered album and utter boredom, but the janitor surprised him! The old man who earned his living with the broom and

mop laid out before the man of learning not formal photographs, but rather wonderful photographs, posed for beauty and developed with rare skill: a willow tree in a stream, an aged oak bathed in the magic of sunset, a lone maple at a lane entrance; silver birches in a twinkling fairy dance.

"You did all this?" exclaimed the astonished guest. The answer came very promptly, "Yes, it is my recreation."

To go back to the doctors' exhibit of hobbies. I noted the names of all the exhibitors and wrote to them asking them to give me the background of their hobby and how they acquired it. I stated in my letter that as I went through the exhibits I realized what a tremendous impetus and encouragement a description of each one of these would be to young people. I added that I was desirous of passing on the exhibits to the literally thousands of young people with whom I came in contact, and in order to be able to do so intelligently, I would appreciate their telling me the story of their particular exhibit—how they became interested in the hobby, when they began collecting, and some interesting features in connection with their securing and making various items.

Practically everyone to whom I wrote replied, and I received some very interesting information.

One doctor, whose hobby was wood working, told me he had been at it for many years, and that his greatest difficulty has been in maintaining a workshop. It was one of the principal reasons for living in the same apartment for twelve years, since the owner is a sympathetic soul and has allowed him to use a large, dry, well-lighted room in the basement. He stated that his shop is a combination wood working and machine shop, and that his whole family putters around there.

Another physician called attention to the fact that the pictures he had exhibited were not collected, but made by him. Two of them were dry point etchings; another, a wax crayon. In doing these pictures he had tried to build a perfectly balanced composition. One interesting fact which came to light while he was making the crayon was that because of the impossibility of blending the colors, there was no cohesion between the different parts of the picture. This he accomplished by going over the entire surface with French grey. This, the artist felt, shows how sometimes success can be pulled out of failure.

Another exhibitor said that his first venture in painting was at Devils Lake, Wisconsin, where, inspired by the beautiful scenery, he made his first water-color. It looked, he said, like the work of a grammar school child, but he continued until the pictures began to look like something. He has never had any art instruction, having learned by his own mistakes.

One doctor told me he always felt that "doing it yourself" is the thing which is in contra-distinction to merely "collecting." His real hobby, he stated, would be collecting prints and etchings from all over the world, and yet, if he could make etchings himself, there would be more satisfaction

Gardening—the hobby which grows more popular and important with every year

Courtesy Chicago Recreation Commission

in it. In medical school, and as an interne, he used to make drawings for various doctors, illustrating operations. It helped to pay his way. He had previously had some lessons from a grand old man, who taught him to draw in the rigorous standard method. He believed that an arm or a body should look as God intended it to, and not like a distorted carrot! Owing to the fact that he has had to practice medicine at least part of the time, he has not had a chance to do much drawing. However, he never travels, if only to Wisconsin, without a sketching pad.

"A craftsman can take some material worth five dollars and make it into a watch worth fifty. A great artist can take a fifty cent piece of canvas and paint on it a picture valued at hundreds of dollars. That's art. Tennyson could take a worthless sheet of paper, write a poem on it, and make it worth $65,000. That's genius. You and I can take a scrap of metal and hammer and shape it into beautiful things for those we love. That's fun, and self-expression, and a hobby." — *Dr. David Monash.*

Another doctor started his hobby about seven years ago when he visited a friend of his who was busy painting on glass. He became very much interested and gathered full information. At that time most of the paintings were done in transparent colors, but since then he has learned to combine the opaque colors as well. The paintings themselves are really quite simple to do. A plate of glass is placed over a design which is outlined on the glass. After the paint has dried in from four to six hours, it is only a matter of filling in with the various colors. It usually takes approximately two to four weeks to finish a 12" x 14" picture, with the limited spare time of a man busily engaged in a profession, since one color has to dry before another is put on beside it. Otherwise the colors would blend.

An interesting story came from a doctor who became so interested in wood sculpture that he had the urge to attempt it himself. The fact that his son was taking lessons from a famous character wood sculptor increased his interest. He viewed the beginning of the life sized figures, carved from wood, that were exhibited by General Motors during the World's Fair, and was greatly impressed by them. It is his feeling that wood sculpture has opened to him another door to the appreciation of other fine things in life.

Stamp collecting is proving very fascinating and entertaining to one doctor, who is collecting the stamps of British Colonies. Many an evening has been brightened for this busy physician by his stamp albums, and it is his feeling that this is the experience of a great many others.

Several years ago a famous pediatrician passed a jewelry store on one of the main streets of Paris and saw in the window a medallion of Louis Pasteur. Although he had seen several photographs of Pasteur, a likeness of him on bronze was novel to this physician. He was especially impressed by the fact that the medallion was small enough to be put into a pocket and carried about without injury.

Since that day this particular doctor has made a systematic search for medallions of medical men. Paris, London, Berlin, Budapest, Naples, Cairo, little towns in France and Hungary, have all been centers of his search. His search for books has taught him that the best of them can be found, not on the main streets but on side streets, if one cannot afford to pay high prices for them. So he invaded antique shops where one of these bronze pieces might be found in the midst of a great deal of debris, old coins and religious ornaments. His search for medallions has become a part of his recreation.

The principal hobby of one doctor is building, and he has found that when he has a fair idea of what he wishes to construct and an idea of how to go about it he can reach his goal. Through his hobbies he has learned how to get a complete mental rest while enjoying physical activity, which sharpens the mind and keeps the body functioning properly.

About six years ago the opportunity presented itself for him to buy an inexpensive lot in a small lake subdivision and to secure building materials nearby. He first drew several sketches in order to decide which would make the most practical house for his purpose. He then drew plans and itemized the necessary materials. In order to transport some needed materials from the city he built a trailer to be attached to the rear of his car. With the exception of large items, such as the buffet and bathroom equipment, he gradually assembled the materials he needed, took them out in his trailer, and started to build. He devoted the Saturdays and Sundays of one fall, spring and summer to the erection of his home. His principal object was to get the house sufficiently far along so that he could live in it and then proceed with the finishing at convenient times. After six years he is still finishing something or perhaps tearing out and replacing a construction on which he had made an error.

This physician has two other hobbies — photography, which he started as a boy of thirteen, and mending broken articles of value no matter what their material. As a result, whether in the city or country, he has some type of physical activity which he can turn to for relaxation.

Dr. "X" turns to lawn bowling for his hobby. All his life he had been accustomed to exercise; football, baseball, tennis, swimming, quoits, archery, hunting, fishing, hockey, skating, golf and boating. About twelve years ago he started to play lawn bowling as a means of getting exercise at times when other games were not available, for with proper lighting this game can be played in the evening. In a game of doubles, 21 ends, a player walks about a mile, and stoops to the ground 168 times—no little task. The exercise, however, is not violent but effective. A friend whom he introduced to the game reduced his waist line eight inches the first summer.

It is exhilarating to accomplish a good shot, and it develops self-control to deliver a proper bowl. The game is good mental and physical discipline in close competition. It has great possibilities for good fellowship and friendship, with time for interchange of ideas.

The managing editor of a medical journal, whose hobby is etching, told me that his first impetus to try etching came from seeing the electro of a scene in the forum in Rome when President Wilson and a group of officials visited it. He admired the plate and wanted to purchase it for framing, but found it was not for sale. He then experimented with copper plates and made a few etchings, one of which was the description of the physician in an early edition of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. Another was copied from an old *Latin Bible*—the *Pater Noster*.

Bird banding is the very interesting hobby of another physician, who carried on his work in the heart of a large city. He received his first inspiration from literature published by the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Bird banding is done under the auspices of this Bureau, and his station, as far as he knows, is the only one in the heart of a large city. In this fact lies much of the interest in the results that he has obtained. He has observed ninety-nine species of birds in his backyard, or flying overhead, and an even fifty varieties have been trapped and banded. Many of these species were photographed, as proof of correct identification. One of his robins ranged to Galveston, Texas, and others returned to him again in succeeding years.

The final hobby to be mentioned is probably one of the most inspiring that has ever come to my attention. It is that of metalcraft, which an eminent Chicago physician and surgeon began when he was sixty-eight years of age and is still continuing at seventy-five. He has made a total of 450 exquisite pieces, using as a medium copper, silver, and brass. Among them are a large circular tray, with fluted edge and initial; two very beautiful silent butlers; items for a lady's breakfast tray, such as combination coffee, creamer and sugar set, and individual cigarette containers; a turkey dressing spoon, with silver inlaid on handle between blackwood and snakewood; two silver vegetable dishes; a copper stamp box; a brass letter opener; numerous trays, large and small, some etched, others fluted, and still others on stands. There are also a number of monogrammed items, such as match boxes, and ash trays.

This hobby, I learned with much interest, was quite unplanned, and was inspired by a casual visit to a school of metalcraft where the surgeon observed a number of amateurs busily engaged fashioning beautiful pieces of artistic design out of silver, pewter, brass and bronze with the aid of competent instructors. Challenged by the director of the school to try his hand at the craft, he made the attempt, inspired by the earnestness and enjoyment shown by the students he was observing.

He well recalls his first "piece," which, he said, served as his aptitude test. It was a copper tray six inches square, with a shallow, saucer-like center. "It was mine, all mine, made under the watchful guidance of the instructor. 'Moons,' the earmarks of the novice, are abundantly in evidence. I designed and cut out of pewter my wife's initials in block letters, and they decorate one corner of the tray. This work, completed on my first day of school, was as amazing as it was pleasing to me. I still treasure it as the shining light and harbinger of my hobby."

Now that Dr. Monash, the physician I have been telling you about, has made almost 500 articles and knows what joy can be had from a hobby, he has endowed a school of metalcraft at the Jewish People's Institute which will begin functioning immediately after the war. Boys and girls of school age who show, on test, an aptitude for this type of work will be given, at this school, an opportunity to make a career of metalcraft. Returning ser-

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Out of Doors with Irvington Youth

By PHILIP LEBOUTILLIER
Superintendent of Recreation
Irvington, New Jersey

THE TEEN AGE GROUP in Irvington, New Jersey, is concentrating on out-of-door activities for the summer months. When it became evident that block dancing and roller skating were first and second choices on the list of preferred summer activities, the teen age committee, composed of young people from junior high schools and high schools, and its advisory committee in cooperation with the Department of Public Recreation made arrangements for the use of a street adjacent to the Municipal Building. The first party was held in May. In spite of the fact that one scheduled party came on a rainy night, the attendance has averaged 1,100 "tagged" boys and girls. Party tags are sold for 10 cents.

Street lighting for the parties is augmented by batteries of floodlights placed on the Municipal Building by the Fire Department; dance records have been loaned and donated; a public address system and equipment for record playing have been loaned. Hostesses are supplied by the groups represented on the advisory committee. Concession privileges are given to local boy and girl organizations. "Just for Fun" prizes donated by merchants are awarded at each party to the holders of lucky tags. Provision for first aid for scratches and other minor wounds is the responsibility of the local Red Cross.

Although the planning and conduct of the parties is largely the responsibility of the teen age committee, an enthusiastic advisory committee of adults meets with the teen-agers twice each month to assist as requested. A fine spirit of comradeship has been developed between the two groups. On the advisory committee are representatives of parent-teacher associations, the Department of Public Safety, the Women's Suburban Club, service clubs, high school faculties, and Boy and Girl Scouts.

Proceeds from the parties are added to the indoor teen age center funds. Publicity for dances is released through the distribution of "throw-aways" in schools and on playgrounds, and through newspapers. A Fire Department car manned by teen-agers visits various sections of the city to broadcast news of the next party over a public address system.

The teen-agers held a one-day paper salvage drive in May. Proceeds were given to the Red Cross and netted that organization $1,044.

In all probability the summer program will include a teen age picnic and a community-wide teen age activity which will be chiefly related to the war effort.

Endwell, New York, a community of upwards of 4,000 people, has formed the Endwell Youth Organization to promote a recreation program for young people twelve years of age and over. The Board of Directors is composed of seven individuals elected for the purpose at a town meeting. The group has sponsored a community band; a boys' hobby night, with classes in radio, blueprint reading, woodwork, leathercraft, and recreation activities; a hobby night for girls, with work on projects for local hospitals and the USO, lectures on personal appearance and fashions; and social activities such as coed party nights and dances.

The community is small, to be sure, but it illustrates what can be accomplished without the conveniences and aids available in most large cities. A little initiative, plus a willing spirit, plus good hard work are the tools with which small-sized communities work.

In a certain Massachusetts city a leading Episcopal church donated the use of its parish house to the youngsters of the community, letting the youth themselves take charge. The young people very soon had placed out in front on the lawn of the very dignified and beautiful church property a large sign reading "Jive Junction"! After a number of meetings of the board controlling policies, it was eventually decided to let the name stand—and stand it does!

The first night the parish house was open, 900 boys and girls appeared, and there has been ever since a very large use of the center.

The youth committee in charge decided that each youth should be known as "substance," and should have an adult adviser called "shadow." So there is as a result frequent use of the phrase, "shadow and substance." It is rather interesting to note that the adult is classed as a shadow. In truth, youth are taking over!

A Summer Program at the Newark Museum

To residents of Newark, both young and old, who are remaining in the city during the summer, the Museum is offering unusual opportunities for recreation and enjoyment

MANY PARENTS are confronted with the problem of what to do with their children during the summer months, both because of the curtailment in travel which is limiting vacations and, in the case of working parents, the lack of someone to care for children during daytime hours.

In order to help meet this need for recreational opportunities, the Newark, New Jersey, Museum is extending the hours of its Junior Museum during the summer months, and is opening its doors at 10 A. M. instead of noon as during the winter. The activities are determined by the interests of the children, which have been found to be largely in the field of painting, modeling and nature study. Therefore, on Monday mornings there are meetings of the Nature Sketch Club, which allow an opportunity for work out of doors; on Tuesday, in the afternoon, the Insect Club meets, and the children are shown how to prepare insects for collections; on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons the Painting and the Modeling Clubs hold their meetings, and on Friday mornings come the sessions of the Nature Club, with occasional field trips. All these activities are supervised by staff members.

In addition, the paint and the clay workshops are open for individual work Mondays through Fridays, both morning and afternoon, and work on individual projects is possible in the nature workshop on Wednesday mornings and afternoons. Although the Museum has had summer programs in other years, none as varied has been offered heretofore. It is true that the Board of Education offers summer programs in its vacation schools. In the programs offered by the Museum there is no duplication of effort.

The Board of Education is cooperating by sending word regarding the Museum's activities to recreation schools and playgrounds, and to the schools with expanded programs. Groups are being brought by the Board of Education to the Museum each Tuesday afternoon to view the puppet shows presented in the garden. These are based on Museum exhibits and are written and produced by children of the Junior Museum, who have also made the scenery and the puppets. On every Thursday there are gallery talks based on Museum exhibits.

Other organizations have expressed interest in these summer puppet shows; the Y.M.H.A. in particular plans to send from 50 to 100 children to them each week from what is known as their "stay-at-home camp" comprising children from 5 to 15 years old. Since the group has as its theme this summer "World Exploration," it is planned to use the Museum's exhibitions of the Theaters of War which have interesting material on China, India, and the islands of the Pacific—plenty to stimulate the imagination of any child.

Courtesy the Newark, N. J., Museum

In order to bring these activities to the attention of as many people as possible, direct personal contact has been made with representatives of industrial plants, local organizations, and housing projects, which have posted notices. Talks have been given in the schools to assembled groups of

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"We Can Build It"

By RICHARD E. RODDA

"If you can put it on paper, we can build it," was the challenge put to Mr. Rodda, who is Superintendent of Recreation in Teaneck, New Jersey, by the Safety Bureau of the Police Department. And they proved beyond doubt that it was no idle boast!

IN 1944 TEANECK, New Jersey, decided it was ready to go into recreation on a year-round basis. However, the budget for the recreation program had been allocated before a superintendent was employed, and since it did not include an item for labor and only a very small amount of equipment was on hand, it meant that the available equipment would have to suffice.

This gave rise to a real problem, but we solved it! We approached the Safety Bureau of the Police Department through Chief of Police C. J. Harte and Sergeant Henry Costy, head of the Safety Bureau, on the rebuilding of a table tennis table which had been resurrected from one of the local firehouses. The table had been stored for a good many years and, judging from its appearance, it was beyond hope. There were no legs, the braces were about to drop off, and it was generally in pretty sad condition. On Sergeant Costy's order, however, three members of the Safety Bureau went to work on the dilapidated table. By using legs from confiscated pin ball machines and through some very clever carpentry, well-placed paint and a bit of masking tape, a practically new table was produced for "The Little Brown Jug," the teen age canteen maintained by the Recreation Department.

That was only the beginning! On learning the other needs of "The Little Brown Jug," the Safety Bureau constructed coat racks, card checking boxes, suggestion boxes, and bulletin boards, to mention only a few of the articles. And they couldn't have looked better had they been bought from one of New York's exclusive sporting goods stores! In addition to these, the public address system of the Safety Bureau was offered the Recreation Department for music for the children.

All this was done in addition to the regular work of the Safety Bureau which entails keeping the traffic lights in working order, maintaining signs and seeing that they are placed in the most

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Community Activities in War Relocation Centers in Arkansas

The War Relocation Authority (WRA), through Edward B. Marks, Jr., its Community Activities Adviser, requested the National Recreation Association to have someone visit the Jerome and Rohwer relocation centers in the Mississippi Delta of Arkansas to observe and report upon the recreation pattern developing there.

Corinne Fondé, who for many years served as Superintendent of Recreation in Houston, Texas, was asked to accept the assignment. Her report is based on brief visits to the Southern Area representative of WRA at his headquarters at Little Rock, and to the two relocation centers.

THE TEN WAR relocation centers quickly constructed by the Federal government in remote areas of our country were made necessary by the evacuation from the Pacific Coast military area and Hawaii, in the spring and summer of 1942, of 110,000 Japanese-Americans, two thirds of whom were American citizens born in this country and educated, for the most part, in American public schools. The one third who are aliens were born in Japan and therefore could not become citizens of this country. All of them have been in the United States at least nineteen years, many of them for forty years. It was found that the great majority of these people could not immediately find new occupations and homes on their own initiative.

Some Background Information

A review of the cause and purpose of relocation centers, the character of the people residing in them, and their living conditions would seem necessary as the background of any report of their community activities. Most of this is found in publications of the WRA itself.

Jerome and Rohwer, Arkansas, are each a community of roughly 8,500 persons. Relocation centers are not municipalities in the normal sense. Life in them is not much above the subsistence level for anyone. A home in a relocation center consists of 100 square feet per person in a tarpaper covered barracks 100 feet long and 20 feet wide, of simple frame construction, with army cots and blankets and small heating stoves furnished, but with no plumbing or cooking facilities. A bath, laundry and toilet building is shared with upwards of 250 people with like accommodations in the same block, as is the mess hall where food, furnished without cost, conforms to the rationing program in effect for all citizens of our country.

Free ordinary medical care, but not special medical service, is available to all evacuee residents, as is education through the high school level. Student evacuees may leave the centers to begin or continue higher education. The WRA provides no financial aid for this higher education. Many evacuees are graduates of American colleges. Vocational training is a part of the regular school program for children and of the employment program for adults, to prepare for resettlement outside the centers and for replacement in the centers. Adults may accept private employment on temporary or indefinite leave. Resettlement of all Japenese-Americans in normal communities through private employment is the objective of the WRA. There is no intent on the part of the Federal government to remove any of their rights or deprive them of opportunity of earning a living and contributing to the nation's economy.

There is opportunity for every able-bodied adult to earn, while within the center, from $12 per month, as an apprentice, to $16 or $19 for a 44-hour week in jobs requiring skills essential to community operations—in the mess halls and hospitals, on the farms and the internal police force, in construction and road maintenance work, in clerical and stenographic work, as members of the community activities staff. There is a maximum allowance of $3.75 per month for work clothes for adults and for personal clothes for dependents. Outside of a few consumer enterprises, such as stores, canteens, barber shops and shoe repair establishments, which pay patronage divi-

dends from their profits, opportunity for economic gain is almost completely lacking.

A year ago these communities were undeveloped red dust. All roads and walks are today red dust and coarse gravel. There are no trees except in some of the farm lands far removed from the barracks. Government owned or leased farm lands operated by evacuee agricultural crews produce a considerable share of the vegetables needed in the mess halls. There are small family vegetable gardens in plots of ground in front of barracks spaces. Eggplant and celery are the favorite vegetables.

The residents of the relocation centers have never been found guilty, either individually or collectively, of any acts or intentions against the security of the nation. Under our laws, aliens of enemy nationality found guilty of such acts are being confined in internment camps administered not by WRA but by the Department of Justice. Minor misdemeanors are handled within the center by the project director or judicial commission made up of evacuee residents. Major criminal cases are turned over to outside courts. Marital difficulties, juvenile delinquency, interfamily quarrels, all find encouragement within the single-room apartment that contains married and unmarried, young and old, stable and unstable, in undesired and undesirable proximity. For the majority of the evacuated people the environment of the centers — despite all efforts to make them livable — remains subnormal and probably always will. The exterior boundaries are guarded by military police, who may be called into the centers in emergency. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is called as the need arises. . . . A certain feeling of isolation and confinement is almost inevitable.

The 110,000 evacuees living in relocation centers left behind them in their former locations on the Pacific Coast an estimated total of $200,000,000 worth of real, commercial and personal property—ranging from simple household appliances to extensive commercial and agricultural holdings. Many disposed of their personal property in quick sales at heavy financial loss. Some stored furnishings and retained interest in holdings. The WRA maintains an evacuee property office and an officer at each center to assist evacuees in keeping their commercial and agricultural properties in productive use through lease or sale, in having household goods shipped to them, and in other property problems.

Evacuee government at the centers roughly parallels that found in small cities of similar size. It does not substitute for the administration provided by the WRA project director and his staff, but encourages residents to assume responsibility for many phases of community management. Each block has its block manager appointed by the director of the center. The block manager has an office in space allotted him for this purpose in one of the barracks in his block.

There is freedom of worship. Barracks space is provided for Protestant, Catholic, and Buddhist services alike. Ministers and priests may hold center jobs—they are not paid for performance of religious duties. Of the evacuees 42.5 per cent are Buddhists, 42.5 per cent Protestant, and 15 per cent Catholic.

Many parents in the centers have sons in the armed forces of our country. The American soldier of Japanese parentage visits the relocation center as his home when on furlough. Over 9,000 are in service, roughly one-half of whom are volunteers. Three have been decorated for bravery. One resident of one of the centers spent thirty-three years in the Navy. One served seventeen years in the Army, went through the first World War, and was wounded in the Argonne.

The majority of the evacuee residents of the centers have said in true patriotic spirit that they would take and bear evacuation as their duty and sacrifice for the cause of their country. They have generously contributed to War Bond sales and Red Cross drives. Quotas were exceeded in all relocation centers in the Red Cross drive.

Community Activities

The evening I arrived at Jerome I was taken on a tour of block activities. Every block was humming with baseball, softball, basketball, free throw contests, volley ball, table games, crafts, flower and vegetable gardening, mass games and story-telling. The men of the WRA personnel, including the director of the center, the superintendent of schools, and the community activities supervisor were practicing for a coming game with a girls' team of the center who they predicted would walk away with the game. A happy group of USO girls were on their way to the entrance to say good-bye to those leaving for private employment. I wished I might find in every block of my city in the twilight hours such a picture developed by the people themselves from nothing but a bare space of ground!

Later, in this center, I visited the new library, just moving into its complete barracks home after

having gotten off to a good start in a small barracks space; the classes in painting and sculpture, where lovely pictures and figures were being created; the nursery schools for the little children; the Toyland Library, the Y.W.C.A. and the USO. Girls of the USO were busy preparing for a Saturday night dance for seventy-five to a hundred soldiers who were expected for the week end. Here I obtained some lovely artificial corsages left over from the Y.W.C.A. booth at the recent Country Fair where these flowers made by the girls were sold to raise their contribution to the community activities fund. Another week-end activity was to be the High School Prom (School was in session, due to a late start.)

If we refer to the background upon which it has been built, the remarkable program of community activities in the two centers I visited, their excellent community organization and admirable community spirit are nothing short of remarkable. It will be noted that the term "community activities" is used rather than "recreation." Community activities encompass all activities in which the community and any or all of its members may be interested in their leisure time—educational, religious, character building, recreational.

The WRA provides an open space of ground in each block and several strategically located larger spaces for development by the community activities staff and the people for neighborhood and center-wide community activities. A barracks to serve as an indoor facility is also provided in each block. It has been found necessary, however, to use the barracks for church, school or community enterprises, so that they are not always available for recreation. The larger outdoor play areas will accommodate a baseball game or a large community event such as a pageant or carnival and country fair. Neither of the centers has as yet an indoor facility to accommodate center-wide events of large nature. The outdoor spaces and barracks provided must be developed through the ingenuity and enterprises of the evacuees with the help of the community activities staff.

A very limited amount of equipment and certain occasional services such as hauling and sound system may be requisitioned from the WRA. National organizations such as the Y. W. C. A., Y.M.C.A., Girl and Boy Scouts, and religious organizations, especially the Friends Society of the Quakers, have contributed furnishings and gifts of money, special equipment, books for the libraries and Christmas presents. At both the centers the evacuees have set up a trust, with trustees, to handle correlation of the activity programs, a depository for receipts from public entertainments and an equitable system of apportioning those receipts among the different activities for equipment purchase and other expenses.

A nonevacuee employee of the WRA serves as a member of the staff of the director of community management assigned to the duties of supervisor of community activities. Men of outstanding preparation and high purpose hold the positions of directors of community management in these two centers. Education, health, religion, and community activities are among the services under their direction. On the staff of the supervisor of community activities are some thirty to fifty evacuees discovered through surveys to find the best potential leadership. These leaders may be block or district leaders, assistant supervisors or supervisors of special activities. At Rohwer there are supervisors of arts and crafts, music and drama, religious activities, maintenance and planning, athletics, clubs and organizations, social activities. Jerome has supervisors of athletics, playgrounds, entertainment, music, dance, adult activities, arts and crafts, Toyland Library, clubs and organizations, publicity, art production. (Clubs and organizations include all private agency groups such as Y.W., Y.M., and Scouts, which must have volunteer leaders.)

In Jerome, the supervisor of publicity is an evacuee who speaks both English and Japanese fluently and who goes into each block announcing coming events and interpreting important practices—a sort of news commentator. The block manager and the Community Council made up of legislative representatives elected through block organization, are used as interest and talent finders and to acquaint the residents with the programs offered. The program is left as far as possible to the people themselves and, to my mind, is functioning with outstanding success in this respect.

A young Japanese-American departmental supervisor of community activities at Rohwer, born in this country and intensely loyal though he is a graduate of an academy at Kobe, Japan, where he spent four years, presented me with a history of the Rohwer community activities section which he had prepared. It contains organization charts, maps showing the organization plan by blocks and districts, forms for plans and reports and description in as neat and complete form as I have ever received from any recreation department in the

country. It is dedicated to the supervisor of community activities at Rohwer, which shows another form of desirable loyalty.

From an enthusiastic staff of young Japanese-American men and women in the office of the supervisor of community activities at Jerome who makes a fine art of bringing out the best in others, I learned of the Community Council; of the occasions when teams from nearby army camps and towns come for match games with the center teams; of the five Boy Scout troops; the very active P.T.A.; the forty independent clubs; of the recent trip of the Boys' Worker to a Y.M.C.A. conference, who went on his own with leave given by the WRA, but who had a part of his expenses paid by the Y.M.C.A. after he got there and they saw his interest; of the moving pictures shown as a community activities cooperative enterprise in a different block building each night, the people bringing their own chairs; of the many activities of the schools and churches; of the enjoyment of the children in educational films and animal cartoons, and of the popularity of relay games with them; of the garden shows, art exhibits and adult hobby exhibits that are held; of the coming center-wide entertainment to be given as a farewell to older members of the center who were soon to be sent back to Japan or to the segregation center at Tule Lake, California.

A play was given me which had been written by a Japanese-American girl for production in the Christian Church, and of which the Buddhist Church asked a repeat performance. It very dramatically presents the story of evacuation and the "conglomeration" of feelings of high school girls and boys, parents, farmers, students in universities and business people; then "entrance into a new life in a new location," the Relocation Center, and finally the plan of resettlement interpreted in this wise: "We are all searching for an exit to the outside world, but may this exit lead us to wider horizons, higher ideals, more people, to be of greater service and to rise nearer to God. . . . We must get out of a mile square world. We cannot confine ourselves through pity. We must move beyond these gates. We must expand. We have found our exit . . . let's get out!"

A Carnival and Country Fair

I found the Rohwer Center steeped in preparations for its two-night Carnival and Country Fair. There was the enthusiastic young community activities supervisor who thought nothing of getting up at six in the morning and driving 125 miles to Little Rock and back for needed supplies; the club members who worked all day in the broiling sun in such heat as I have never before experienced preparing their booths of games, entertainment, contests, refreshments, pop-corn and peanuts, and chicken noodle suppers.

In the community activities office supplies were being sorted and distributed, banners lettered and all of the many details necessary to the success of a large undertaking were being handled efficiently by the evacuee staff with the supervisor absent on the Little Rock mission. In community activities barracks in the two blocks nearest the carnival grounds there were exhibits — one of *Kebanni,* or flower arrangements, and of vegetable arrangements being judged as a feature of the Carnival; the other of wonderfully carved plaques and other articles of wood. Cypress knees were polished and slightly altered to make exquisite flower and vegetable containers and in some cases interesting stands and tables — all retaining their natural shapes. Here I learned that the evacuees, seeing the nearby cypress swamps, had slipped out to get the knees to make articles for their barracks homes, and that when some of them came to the view of the Center personnel, arrangements were made to take them in trucks for this commendable enterprise. I was told by the director of community management that there was some question in the minds of tree experts as to whether the knee was vital to the cypress tree. He said their experience there should certainly determine this conclusively, if disastrously, because few cypress trees still had their knees!

That night, to all appearances, the entire community turned out. At least everything that had been intended to last for a two nights' run was sold out or used up, so that new supplies must be sought for Saturday night. The entertainment on the platform was prepared by the older generation and was in the nature of a talent night. Here I heard what I learned was Nani War Bushi — a chanting of folk tales and an orchestra of Japanese instruments directed by a leader who had charged $25 a lesson in California and who has at the Center no facilities for orchestration so he writes them from listening to records played on the victrola.

Leadership

At Rohwer I found again a group of interesting and interested young evacuees on the community activities staff. There was the athletic director who had been a jeweler and owned a chain of theaters

in his California home town and as a hobby had served as a volunteer with the Recreation Department to organize Japanese teams throughout the county. At Rohwer he had a staff, a corps of volunteers and teams in all sports for all ages from the cradle to the grave, which seemed to give him the greatest possible satisfaction. He still corresponded with and received encouragement from his good friend Alonzo Stagg. While he had some sumo and judo — Japanese forms of wrestling — and some of the well-known jiujitsu, he stressed American sports for both the patriotic and the very practical reason that in going out for resettlement the Japanese-Americans would find themselves more acceptable in communities if they had some skill in games common to Americans.

There was the charming young woman guide in charge of clubs and organizations, who so loved her Y.W.C.A. that when we arrived at the room devoted to this activity she settled down on the couch and opened up her heart and her philosophy to me. The Y.W.C.A. had given her the experience of a conference in New Orleans and Gulfport where she had made friendships that gave her the faith to seek her fortune in a new environment. But she said her parents, true to Japanese traditions, wanted to arrange a marriage for her before she went out to accept employment, and marriage opportunities were greater in the Relocation Center because all Japanese were together in such close proximity there. She, of American tradition, wanted to await the coming of love and had greater hope of what life could mean because of Relocation Center experience and wider horizons that had come with it. She said that by and large the second generation of Japanese-Americans were about her age and that postponement because of evacuation for a year or two of the new life that they would normally be making for themselves at their age was not too great a sacrifice, in view of the sacrifices everyone must make for their country in wartime, and of the wider opportunities that might come. She took me into barracks homes and gardens that were inconceivably lovely to me after spending two nights in a bare barracks room. They were homelike, full (but not too full) of beautiful furnishings, with artistic half-partitions and in two of them adorable babies for whom most suitable and tasteful arrangements had been made.

In the gardens there were the loveliest morning glories of the most unusual size and hues, and other beautiful flowers, and little boys carefully gathering the seed from the ripe blooms for another year. Bordering all gardens throughout the two centers were miles and miles of portulaca in full bloom. Old men were busy with irrigation. On one small porch entrance there was a youth, a member of the orchestra, practicing on his instrument. We visited the well-established library, with a large number of children as patrons, the Buddhist Church and the Church of the Federated Christian Churches where the children of the daily vacation Bible school were having their closing party.

Activities of All Kinds

We saw a barracks full of looms—thirty of them —all being used by women and girls weaving rugs, cloth for suits, table linen and other materials of exquisite pattern, weave and fabric. I learned of the dressmaking classes, with evacuee instructors, where women and girls learn everything about making a garment from drafting a pattern from a picture in a fashion magazine to the finished garment. The community activities supervisor called my attention to the excellent fit of all garments worn by the women and girls in the Center. I was told of the evenings of folk and couple dancing many groups enjoy; of the book review club where the intelligentsia of the Center review a book a week; of the discussion group much interested in the subject of postwar planning, and of the Little Theater with all of the branches of the theater and a member who was the Japanese butler in a play that had a long run on Broadway.

In Rohwer there are 275 Girl Scouts in nine troops and three Brownie troops, 275 Boy Scouts, twelve Girl Reserve, and three Junior Girl Reserve groups, two High Y clubs, eighty-five independent clubs, and a Toy Lending Library with its story hour every Saturday morning. The favorite leisure-time occupation of the women is the making of life-like artificial flowers. Everywhere I went— in homes, churches, mess halls, offices, community activity buildings—there was the inevitable cypress knee holder with its artificial roses, gladioli, carnations, morning glories—as my guide said, "To brighten things up until we could grow the real flowers."

This is the community life that has grown up in the War Relocation Center in a year's time— made simple on the one hand, it is true, by the isolation and unavoidable institutional character of the Center, but on the other hand fraught with difficulty not often experienced because it must be built upon the background of the people suddenly evacuated from their homes and thrust into a pioneer environment.

Otto Mallery

Otto Mallery has long given distinguished service to Philadelphia and to the nation

On June 12th, Otto T. Mallery was re-elected President of the Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia, and began his twentieth year in that office. Prior to 1925, he was an officer and director of the Association for nineteen years. He is a charter member of the Association, which was organized in 1907 — thirty-seven years ago. He played an important role in the founding of the Association, working closely with Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, then Superintendent of Schools and later Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Association is one of the oldest active private recreation agencies in America — the National Recreation Association was founded six months earlier in Washington. Otto Mallery has been a director of the National Recreation Association for thirty-two years and is a member of its Executive Committee. Mr. Mallery has always been an active leader in the National Recreation Congress gatherings.

In Philadelphia, when the citizens think of playgrounds and recreation, they think of Otto Mallery. His nearly forty years of devotion to the development of the recreation movement has given him the distinction of being the leading citizen in this field. No other Philadelphia person has given so much of his time, his energy, skill, and personal wealth to assure the happiness of children and youth.

In spite of his long record, Otto Mallery has today the point of view and spirit of youth. He is always looking forward, formulating plans for expansion of facilities, more efficient operation, and consolidation of public recreation agencies.

Design for Fishing—Fun and Food

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in the former rearing pond are bass for late summer flycasting.

Hoene's fishing log in 1942 covered plantings of nearly 15,000 fish, mostly rainbow and speckled trout. Last year the feat was duplicated.

Although fishing is being restored as a community enterprise for public benefit, the task is not completed, and Park Superintendent Hoene (he has held that post since 1940) will hasten to tell you it has not been a one-man job. Ben Gustafson, Superintendent of the French River Hatchery, has been the fishing expert in the supply and planting operations. The Duluth Conservation Club, largest in Minnesota, has contributed thousands of man-hours in stream improvement and in clearing the way for establishment of rearing ponds.

From the standpoint of municipal administration, "it's all a part of better living and a better city," Hoene tells you. "We need the trees to prevent erosion of the hillsides, to check the flow of silt into the storm sewers under the impact of the spring thaws and summer rains. The trees and shrubs hold the soil on the banks of the streams and at the same time provide shade for the trout pools. Youngsters like to get out to fish just as much as they want to take a dip in the old swimming hole. Here, right at home, they can enjoy wholesome recreation. That makes for healthier children and citizens. Clean, outdoor fun also is reflected in juvenile delinquency records. It's all just a simple pattern into which the parts fit easily."

Hoene believes that any city can provide the same pattern, limited only by the sources of water and natural facilities.

Already he is looking to the future. Give him the opportunity and Hoene will draw from a desk drawer the blueprints for his postwar projects. What has proved to be a boon in wartime will have as much value, come peace and domestic progress

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Youth's Recreation Plan for Philadelphia

The Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia consulted the youth of the city's junior and senior high schools about recreational needs and future plans. At the annual meeting of the Association held the latter part of April, recommendations were submitted.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED youth from the public, private and parochial junior and senior high schools of Philadelphia, in assembly, April 25, 1944, do hereby present to the citizens of this city our recreation plan for Philadelphia.

This plan is a summary of recommendations from a series of conferences of representative students in the schools, which were conducted by the Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia.

It is our sincere belief that if our recommendations are favorably considered and made a reality, the temptations that lead to delinquency will be greatly reduced.

We, of the teen age group, therefore, offer a program that we think is good and will meet our needs. We respectfully request that favorable action be started at once, and we assure the citizens of Philadelphia that they can count on our cooperation in adopting and developing our Ten-Point Program, as follows:

1. That the City Government greatly expand the number of recreation centers, adequately lighting them for night use, and adjusting the programs to the interests of youth with a more "glamorous" appeal.

2. That all the schools of the city be opened for evening recreation, and that youth groups be given the opportunity to suggest the program of activities and the methods to achieve an informal atmosphere.

3. That such organizations as the Y's, Boys' and Girls' Clubs and other groups extend their services by the establishment of branches throughout the city, and that these agencies adjust their programs to meet the needs of youth.

4. That the churches of the city offer their facilities for youth social activities, open to all, without regard to race, creed, or the lack of religious affiliations.

5. That all recreation agencies offer more organized sports, and that other organizations join the recreation agencies in forming a city-wide movement to expand materially the athletic and sports facilities for team competition.

6. That Teen-Age Canteens for youth be established in existing agencies, and, in neighborhoods without agencies, that the adults there be requested to cooperate in developing Canteens in vacant properties or other suitable places.

7. That the Fairmount Park Commission create more parks in congested neighborhoods and increase the facilities of recreation services appealing to youth in the parks now operated, such as: vacation and week-end camping; hiking groups; swimming pools; sports fields; ice and roller skating.

8. That youth be encouraged to make greater use of the cultural services of the city by adjusting admission fees, offering more programs that they can appreciate, and by forming cultural clubs to be inspired and directed by the cultural leaders of the city, as: Youth Centers, Art Clubs, Youth Theaters, and Forum Groups.

9. That commercial organizations offering amusements to the public be required to observe strictly the laws regarding admission of minors, especially to tap rooms, pool rooms, dance halls, and burlesque shows. Furthermore, that petty politicians be stopped from interfering with laws protecting youth, and that movie managements insist on proper conduct of its patrons during shows. Also, that candy and drug stores used as hang-outs be forced to eliminate gambling, the sale of obscene literature, and like irregular practices.

10. That all agencies and organizations, public and private, offering recreation for youth be requested to have youth representatives on their boards to serve as advisers.

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

ACORNS. Ex-President Grover Cleveland set aside by proclamation a small section of public lands for national forests. The United States Senate spent two days debating whether he should be impeached for such action. Now nearly one fourth of our forest land is in national forests.

"Baby Bears," a true story of bear cubs for small children. Translated from the Russian of E. Charushin by Marguerita Rudolph. The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.

"Bird Watching," by J. J. Hickey. Opens the door to a fascinating experience. Oxford University Press, New York. 262 pp. $3.50.

Canning. "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," a free 16 mm. educational sound film on the canning industry from the days of Appert. Time—thirty minutes. Also "Meat and Romance," on how to buy, cook and carve meat and its food values. Address Castle Distributors' Corp., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20.

Crystals. Dissolve ten cents worth of potassium nitrate in a cup of hot water in a pint jar. Stir until the nitrate will not dissolve any more. Hang a string from a stick set across the top of the jar. Look every day.

Fire. "The Science of Fire Fighting," by John J. McCarthy. 265 pp., 13 figs., $3.00. Norton Publishing Co., New York, 1943. Subtitled "For the Citizen, the Professional, the Volunteer and the Auxiliary."

Fisheries. U. S. Department of the Interior. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Fisheries of North America with Special Reference to the United States," by R. H. Fiedler. Chicago, Ill., 1944. 13 pp. (Reprint, *Geographical Review,* Vol. 30, No. 2, April 1940, pp. 201-214.) Single copies are free as long as supply lasts.

Forest Fires. "Burning an Empire," by Stewart H. Holbrook. The Macmillan Company, New York. 229 pp. Not comfortable reading, but it will help rub smoke out of your eyes.

Garden Clubs. The Texas Garden Clubs and the Pan American Garden Clubs are planning their ninth visit to Mexico.

"Herbs: Their Culture and Uses," by Rosetta E. Clarkson. Grow your own herbs! More than one hundred recipes. The Macmillan Company, New York. Illus. $2.75.

Hiking. "The Hiker's Handbook," by Douglas Leechman. Norton Publishing Co., New York, 220 pp., illus., $2.50.

"Maternal Overprotection," by David M. Levy. Columbia University Press, New York. $4.50. Most successful technique consists of direct environmental change, as going to camp.

Mourning Doves are game in the Southeastern states. The Fish and Wildlife Service is anxious to learn all it can about the status of this bird in order to formulate a sound management policy. The Service would be glad to know about its relative abundance, when nests are occupied, etc. You can take an active part in this investigation.

"Plants and Flowers in the Home," by Kenneth Post. Orange Judd Publishing Company, Inc., New York. 198 pp., illus., $2.

"The Star Finder," by Henry M. Neely. Atlas-style book. Many charts and diagrams. Smith and Durrell, Inc., New York, 1943. 62 pp. $2.75.

Victory Gardening. "$6,000 in Scholarships for Farm Youths." The 1944 handbook of the National Junior Vegetable Growers' Association Production and Marketing Contest. Six-page leaflet by Professor Grant B. Snyder, NJVGA, Contest Committee Chairman. Massachusetts State College, Amherst, Massachusetts.

"Everyone needs the comfort and inspiration of placid lakes and rippling streams, of birds and animals carrying on a normal, natural life, of peaceful landscapes and open spaces. These are fundamental necessities even in normal times, and in abnormal times the need increases. It is our major task to expose every man, woman, and child to an environment that will stimulate happiness, well-being, mental and physical fitness, and love of homeland and of the society we call democracy."—*Francis A. Gross,* President, Minneapolis Park Board.

WORLD AT PLAY

Courtesy Recreation Commission, Monroe, Michigan

Tony's Kite Entertains Youngsters

IN MONROE, Michigan, Tony's kite is the thing these days! It's a twelve-foot affair made by Tony Ziegler for the youngsters' entertainment. One of his most popular tricks is floating the kite at two hundred feet, fastening a dummy and parachute to the kite rope. The parachute opens, the dummy glides to the earth, and the kite sails on. Next on the agenda, declares Tony, is a forty-foot dragon kite.

A Club with No Dues and No Meetings

WILKES-BARRE, Pennsylvania, has a very active organization known as the "Friends of the Shut-Ins Club," which was originally affiliated with the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley but is now on its own. The club has about 400 shut-in members and an equal number of volunteer visitors, each of whom makes twelve visits a year. A post card is sent each month by the visitors to keep officers of the society informed about the shut-ins, and an occasional tea is given for the visitors.

One of the practical services of the Club is the loaning of wheel chairs of which the organization now owns 180. It also offers for loan portable radios and typewriters. Other services include occupational therapy, eye care (arranged and provided for by the state), home movies, and a Council Book Club. There are over 48 Girl Scout troops working for the Friends of the Shut-Ins Club, which now is the project of the Wilkes-Barre Quota Club.

More People at Play in Los Angeles

ATTENDANCE during the week ending April 15, 1944, at the 52 recreation centers maintained by the Los Angeles, California, Department of Playground and Recreation totaled 167,941 visits, a 45 per cent increase over the record of 115,309 for the corresponding week in 1943. Virtually every week in the current year has exceeded in attendance the same period in 1943, according to a report.

Home Recreation

THE YOUTH Committee of Civilian Defense and the Council of Social Agencies of New Orleans, Louisiana, are developing a program of recreation for young people in their homes. As the plans have been made, these parties are to be simple and inexpensive with such refreshments as cookies and a cup of chocolate.

The program has the following objectives: (1) to encourage parents to open their homes to groups of their children's friends in the neighborhood for wholesome fun; (2) to plan for the use of community halls, social halls of churches, school buildings, or other facilities where neighborhood gatherings can be organized at regular intervals under the leadership of parents.

"Flood Free Johnstown"

JOHNSTOWN, Pennsylvania, is proud of the fact that with the completion of a five year channel flood prevention project by U. S. Army engineers the city is now flood free. To celebrate the event, a committee of 400 citizens has launched a six months' observance which will serve as an announcement to the outside world that Johnstown, free from fear of floods, is now a good place in which to live, work, and do business. A number of subcommittees are at work including the

governmental committee, of which J. C. Gruber, superintendent of recreation, is co-chairman.

Juvenile Delinquency and the Police—Evidence accumulates that police departments throughout the country are becoming increasingly interested in the provision of recreation as one method of preventing juvenile delinquency.

The February 1944 issue of the *Police Chiefs' News Letter* gives a brief résumé of the history of the National Recreation Association and its functions, refers to the publications on youth centers and says:

"Police officials who are taking an active role in community organization to prevent juvenile delinquency may secure from the National Recreation Association assistance and helpful information on recreation programs."

Helping Rural Communities—The Iowa State College employs a drama and recreation specialist whose time is spent in the field, meeting with groups of all kinds and helping them with their recreation programs. During 1943 forty institutes were held, largely in the field of drama and recreation.

Community Fun Nights in San Francisco—The Community Fun Nights in San Francisco, inaugurated this spring by the Recreation Commission, are proving very successful. On the third of the evenings held on May 25th, a May Program was presented by the junior group and a Memories Program by the adult group. The center at which this was held is located in the section of the city where there are many mixed nationalities, and attendance is made up of Negroes, Filipinos and white citizens, both adults and children. All join enthusiastically in the fun, and a real community spirit is developing as an outgrowth of the Nights.

Community Forests—The forestry extension worker of Nebraska is greatly interested in the setting aside of woodland areas for rural people. Recently he has conferred with town authorities regarding the setting aside of areas for "community forests," usually so located that they will be available for recreation where groups come together.

Courtesy Greystone Studios, Inc.

Charles M. Cox, volunteer helper in the National Recreation Association for more than twenty years, who died on June 13, 1944.

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt

(Continued from page 229)

father present. In giving support to the Association he was carrying on his father's interest as well as his own. Many supporters are now of the second generation.

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt believed deeply in the principle of decentralization of government—that the roots of a strong recreation movement should be in each locality and that particular attention should always be given to the home.

In his own family and in his own personal life Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt practiced what he preached and carried the spirit of recreation and good fun into all that he did. He was deeply concerned to serve the generation in which he lived. In his death the recreation movement has lost a very real and understanding friend.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

You Asked for It!

Question: The director of a State Youth Authority of a Pacific Coast state asks: What are recent public recreation developments in western cities designed to meet the current youth delinquency problems?

Answer: Of course you know as well as I do that delinquency is as old as the human race but it is true that the present world war, like the last one, has accelerated the problem.

While recreation is not a cure-all for juvenile delinquency, practical experience has demonstrated that wholesome, well-planned and conducted recreation can assist vitally in the total effort. The problem can only be worked out successfully by the combined efforts of home, school, church and community. The special teen service "juke box, coke-snack bar" social recreation lounges can never be more than a small part in the sum total of needed service.

There are five essential factors in establishing and maintaining the special teen centers referred to: (1) location; (2) physical layout and facilities including the amount and type of floor space available and the furnishings covering facilities for parties, dancing and social comradeship; (3) the extent in which young people themselves are involved in planning and conducting the center; (4) the thoughtful understanding and skill of the professional recreation leadership, and (5) finance and general administration.

In this last category such centers will generally be more successful if managed by the public recreation service department as a part of their general service.

I know you are familiar with the extent of developments under Miss Josephine Randall, Superintendent of Recreation, San Francisco. One effective center is the new civic recreation center for youth in La Arcade Building in Santa Barbara where the average daily attendance is close to two hundred. Two very skillful women, employed by the Recreation Department, cooperate with the youth groups here in the conduct of this center. The Sunday afternoon and evening programs are entirely under the Youth Council.

Some of the special centers set up are meeting with difficulties due to the failure to recognize some of the things already evaluated as related to location, furnishing of leadership, etc.

There are fine high school age dances put on under the joint auspices of the Recreation Division of the Park Department, the schools, and the Association of P.T.A.'s at Seattle; Playground Youth Councils and a special club for newsboys at Long Beach; four new youth centers at San Diego, and four community centers emphasizing boys' clubs and girls' clubs at Salt Lake City. At Oakland the Board of Education and the Recreation Department have worked out a broad cooperative attack on the youth recreation problem.

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Handicraft House Pioneers in Recreation

(Continued from page 253)

ballroom dancing in relays. The children up to grade 7 are making remarkable progress. The unfortunate feature is that it is necessary to limit the number attending to those who are members of the arts and crafts groups. This eliminates a great number of the children who have left school early to take jobs and for whom our approach is not sufficiently adult to be suitable. We earnestly hope that there may later be a center for these young people which will for the most part be self-governing.

The woodworking department is "terrific," to use the children's own expression. Youngsters of

(Continued on page 273)

What They Say About Recreation

"WE BELIEVE our mission will be to spread the spirit of good will to all parts of the earth. In such a program, recreation is indeed significant, and a vital part of any peace documents yet to be written."—From the *Code* of the *Recreation Council,* Bay City, Texas.

"Appropriate recreation has long been a panacea for the ills of man, and its importance has been enhanced manyfold by current conditions." — *J. Edgar Hoover.*

"Cooperative effort can best be learned through team sports, and therein may be found the dynamics of democracy."—*Norton Pritchett.*

"Wider, richer, more meaningful kinds of leisure-time activities are needed to meet the present challenge, and above all, the new challenge."—*Dr. Philip L. Seman.*

"It is during the leisure time of a people that the creative reservoirs are tapped and the mosaic pattern in which are woven art, music, literature, and the humbler forms of skill expressions are developed."—*Lancaster, Pa., Annual Report.*

"Beauty is the smile on the earth's face open to all, and needs but the eye to see, the mood to understand."—*John Galsworthy.*

"Our people would benefit greatly if for some of the modern amusements that contribute little or nothing to spiritual growth they would substitute the real recreation that comes from choosing natural science as a hobby."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt.*

"Music has played its vital part in wartime all through history. During the first World War, music did as much as anything else to keep our country's morale to its heartwarmingly high level." —*Walt Disney.*

"Sometimes one comes across a person with whom living is a fine art; then one realizes what a much more beautiful creation it is than books and pictures."—*A. C. Benson.*

"Drama is the hunting ground of all the arts." —*Joy Higgins.*

"I have always heard culture defined as training resulting in gracious, kindly customs and good manners; something that contributes to fine, clean, decent living, whether it is knowledge of art, or science, or music or literature." — *Dr. William Fleck.*

"It is only as we grow older that we realize that happiness is a subtle thing—depending on satisfying work, right human relationships, and spiritual maturity." — From *Leadership of Girl Scout Troops.*

"Children are more important than war. We talk about postwar planning, but children are postwar people. What happens to the child determines what happens to the future."—*Mary Simkhovitch.*

"Recreation has become so securely entrenched in the habits and folkways of the people that it is a dominating force affecting the whole range of their activities."—*Jesse F. Steiner.*

"Art and play fulfill the same function, provide the same refreshment. Moreover, they are both their own excuse for being. Each is done for its own sake, not for an ulterior object." — *Richard Cabot.*

"Fun is recreation but recreation is more than fun. The aims of recreation are to create anew and to refresh as well as to entertain."—*Harry R. Wilson.*

"Travel opens the mind; but so does print; and print is the cheapest mind opener there is, and the best."—*John Cotton Dana.*

"Camping is democratic living through camper participation, through developing a sense of responsibility for the success of camp, as well as through using its privileges." — From *Camping Today.*

"The personal rewards to the gardener are equally rich from food or flower gardens. And, of course, gardening is fun—one of the finest kinds of recreation, combining as it does physical exercise with a creative craft." — From *Community Recreation.*

(Continued from page 271)

all ages with saws, hammers, and other tools are making many articles. With a large number of children present and only one leader, it is impossible to teach them much, but they are helping each other and having fun. Later we may be able to give additional instruction to those who want to go further.

Most of the activities of the Recreation Department are concerned with children, but that does not mean any lack of appreciation of the value of recreation for adults. At Handicraft House we have some adult classes, chiefly in the craft room, where instruction is being given older people three afternoons a week and late in the evenings. This room may also be used by adults whenever the children are not there.

We have organized Handicraft House as much as possible about the needs of our community and the leadership available. When we looked for leaders we found a number of people not available for full-time work but who had had training and were able to accommodate their time to our needs. The center opens at 4:00 o'clock every day except Saturday, when the program begins at 9:00 A. M. In the evening it is open from 7:00 until 10:00. The supervisor of woodworking is on hand every day; the other instructors divide the week into two and a half day sessions. Since the emphasis is on guidance rather than formal teaching, the personality of the leader is extremely important.

The fact that juvenile delinquency figures in Regina have dropped during the past year has made the citizens feel that the taxes they are paying for recreation are well spent. The more than 4,500 children who registered with us at Handicraft House in March were too busy and happy to get into mischief.

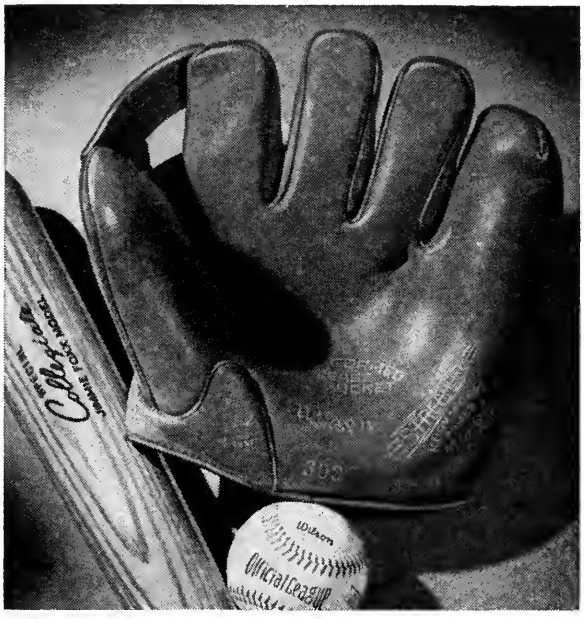
Victory Gardens in Housing Developments

(Continued from page 232)

that the vegetables and fruit canned by the residents may be exhibited.

The victory garden program of the war housing projects in the Wichita Area is typical of the interest evinced by all the residents in their varied community activities. It provides conclusive proof that democracy works and that a community program will be successful when the individuals participating have the freedom to invest their time, effort, and money in community activities that are actually of their own making.

THE "PAY-OFF"



TODAY in France, with the tables turned—with overwhelming air power and equipment and hundreds of thousands of hard-bodied, clear-headed, fully-trained and equipped American, Canadian and British fellows on our side, Hitler is getting a good taste of what he dished out to the unprepared British and French in the early stages of the war. This is the "pay-off."

It is a great privilege for us to know that everywhere, in schools and colleges, in training camps and base camps, in America and overseas, Wilson Sports Equipment has played a part in the physical training, relaxation and morale of our American fighters.

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IT'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Baseball Gets Mandate from Army to Carry On

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS have been taken from the message sent by Lieutenant General Brehon Somervell, Chief of the Service of Supply, to the New York Chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association at their twenty-first annual dinner:

"I want to tell you how important a factor baseball is in the winning of the war. It has been said that the successes of the British army can be traced to the cricket fields of Eton, and I say that the sandlots and big-league ball parks of America have contributed their share to our military success. Nearly seventy per cent of all major league players at the time of Pearl Harbor are wearing the uniform today and giving a splendid account of themselves.

"Besides, a million and a half kids from the junior sandlot teams sponsored jointly by the major leagues and the American Legion are in the armed services. They are good soldiers. They learned teamwork early. And it takes teamwork to win a battle or a war. It also takes realism. We never dare forget that a battle or a campaign can be upset by a ninth inning rally. We dare take no chances, we dare not slow down, we dare not relax until the last man is out. . . .

"I call upon you to help our Army and Navy by employing your skill and your knowledge in the maintenance of morale both at home and among our troops. It is in your power to encourage both the workers and the fighters to give all they have to achieve victory. I am grateful to you for what you have done and for what I know you will do in the future."

Design for Fishing—Fun and Food

(Continued from page 266)

on a larger scale. His plans call for construction of deflectors in streams, expanded plantings of willow cuttings and alders near channels in headwaters of fishbearing creeks, digging of pools, small dams and other improvements on nature.

The Contribution of Recreation to Morale

(Continued from page 237)

There is the incident of the Russian officers who took time out during a lull in hostilities to take part in a game of chess. Practically every Russian soldier knows the moves of this intricate game, and over 50,000 entries were recently received for a chess congress held in battered Moscow.

Then there was the picture we shall never forget of the pretty nurse playing a game of checkers with a veteran of the North African campaign who had been invalided home. It would have been impossible to tell which was enjoying the battle more!

These instances could be multiplied a hundredfold in every branch of the service and every theater of the war. A desire for this form of recreation is equally strong in the civilian population. Witness the newsreels of bomb shelters in war-torn London where people passed many weary hours playing draughts, the English term for checkers, chess, and darts. Our own factory workers in the many war plants throughout the nation also enjoy these popular games as well as dancing, playing of musical instruments, and other forms of recreation. When the mind becomes fatigued and the human body begins to wear down, an hour or so of relaxation and play acts as a refresher which enables us to return to our important duties with renewed zest.

One fine day—we fervently hope in the not too

Mrs. Kelly's Doorstep

MRS. IRENE KELLY of Pittsburgh got news the other day that her son, Sgt. Charles Edward Kelly, first winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor in the Italian theater of war, is coming home soon. A photograph published in this newspaper showed Mrs. Kelly on her doorstep passing the news along to some of her neighbors. They were neighbors with good American faces, and one could guess that their homes, and Mrs. Kelly's home, were spick and span inside. But Mrs. Kelly's doorstep abutted on an alley that was certainly not more than ten feet wide, and into which the sun could certainly not penetrate very long in any day. The surrounding walls were of unpainted clapboards or dingy brick.

This housing produced Sergeant Kelly, who must be healthy as well as brave. It produced six other Kelly boys, all now in service. But will anyone dare say that it is good enough for the Kellys? Certainly there is a field right there, in that angle of Pittsburgh, for some housing — subsidized by the Federal, State or city government, if necessary —that will provide Mrs. Kelly with a better doorstep, more sunlight and something better to look at than a gray wall ten feet away. — From *The New York Times,* April 11, 1944.

distant future—this war will be over, and victory and peace will be ours. In the era that is to follow all will have ample time to participate in recreation and indulge in hobbies. We shall not abandon in peace those games and sports which in wartime contributed so much toward conditioning us for battle and victory.

Hobbies as Recreation for Older People

(Continued from page 257)

vicemen, jobless, disabled, or depressed, will find at the workshop a precious vocation, rehabilitation, and an absorbing new interest in life. And men and women with leisure, who perhaps are retiring from lifelong activity of one kind or another, may discover in metalcraft a sustained interest promising a happy use of their well-earned leisure.

Hobbies are the things we want to do—not what someone else does for us. They are very personal —something to be shared only with fellow enthusiasts.

Let's have a hobby!

A Boy . . . A Water Wheel . . . And a Dream!

(Continued from page 247)

original . . . the same wanting-to-find-out-for-oneself that always makes for progress.

Today, this philosophy and the skills developed through more than forty years of experience are being applied to America's vital needs. From this will arise new techniques to serve the nation even better when Ford resumes the production of sturdy, comfortable transportation, priced within the reach of the greatest number. As Henry Ford has said: "Our times are primitive. True progress is yet to come."—Used by courtesy of the *Ford Motor Company.*

A Summer Program at the Newark Museum

(Continued from page 259)

children to tell them about the Museum.

For adults who wish to model, carve, paint or draw, there is the recreation workshop where, in informal group meetings, talks, demonstrations, and discussions are offered which provide a basis for individual work. During the winter months this workshop was very popular, and the people who came were delighted to find that no previous experience was necessary. For those who wish to

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contribute their services in carrying on recreational and vocational programs under medical directors in hospitals, a craft series on puppetry is planned. This is open to teachers and to laymen interested in community programs for servicemen and women. Hand puppets, shadow puppets, and string puppets will be made from cardboard, papier-mâché, wood, and other materials.

Those with interests in science are having an opportunity to attend the meetings entitled "Hunting without a Gun," which covers such subjects as "Plants Grow Everywhere," and "Shells Make a Beautiful Collection." During August the series will deal with "A New World—Through the Microscope." Both series are designed to familiarize the layman with scientific methods of collecting and identifying specimens, and to introduce the microscope as a valuable and interesting source of information and discovery.

A Playground in the Jungle

(Continued from page 246)

men in the program have wiped out "boredom fatigue," increased their efficiency in the work of the hospital, and have gone far to make them forget their complaints.

The centralizing of facilities has proved an excellent plan. If a ward technician working nights decides to play badminton in the afternoon, all he needs to do to find a partner is to glance in the day room which is on the athletic field. Movies twice a week, a series of weekly lectures, and an occasional game with another outfit complete our program.

Our center at the 14th Evacuation Hospital has proved that recreation facilities are possible anywhere.

A Nature Fair in Houston, Texas

(Continued from page 251)

tion of nature trails, museums, bulletin boards, publications, experiments, observations, and bird bending.

Houston's Nature Guide School is part of the

Enroll in a Refresher Course in

MUNICIPAL RECREATION ADMINISTRATION

As a Means of Keeping Ahead of Your Job

This course is designed to acquaint recreation executives with the administration aspects of their department and its correlation with other departments of city government. Special emphasis is placed on the recreation problem: its program; areas and facilities; leadership; operation of playgrounds and recreation buildings; recreation organization; personnel; financial support; records and reports; evaluating recreation service; and publicity and relationships.

The enrollment fee of $35 will bring you the specially written text, an opportunity to apply the text material to your own recreation problems, comments of an authority in the field on each lesson assignment, and a certificate upon satisfactory completion of the work.

One enrollee recently wrote, *"Truthfully I cannot remember any effort on my part which has paid off in dividends so quickly."*

Send Inquiries to

THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois

expanding nature program of the Park and Recreation Department. Although designed primarily for the city's playground directors, it is open to Boy and Girl Scout leaders and to all interested in learning more about the natural history of the Houston region. The course will be introductory in nature but will, it is hoped, lead to more intensive study later.

There will be a three hour session once a week from July 10 to August 28. The registration fee will be $1.00, and members of the classes will be asked to purchase, as a textbook, a copy of *Adventuring in Nature* (price 60 cents), published by the National Recreation Association.

New York's Handcraft Exhibit

(Continued from page 250)

were several miniature scenes made of various kinds of material. One depicted the jungle, the land of the Eskimos and another described the country near the Nile.

The senior group was represented by a large number of articles for the home and generally useful articles. In the hobby section, there was a miniature battleground with barracks, tanks, jeeps, guns, a railroad and other such articles. This exhibit was six or eight feet long and several feet wide.

Recreation for Negro Youth

(Continued from page 245)

time the mailing list had grown to 125 and a card system for checking attendance was formed, with names checked off as people entered. This work was all done by the Council which met once a week to plan entertainment, decorations, the selling of soft drinks, and the running of the juke box for each dance.

When the third dance drew an attendance of 150 people, a waiting list was compiled. As boys go into the service, or as students move, names are taken from the waiting list and placed on the mailing list.

The fourth affair was a Barn Dance with prizes awarded to the best dressed couple and the best dressed individual girl and boy. This time two couples of Negro parents were asked to serve as patrons and judges.

The Council feels that it offers something new in the line of entertainment for each dance. Future plans consist of a council of parents to sponsor the last dance of the season—a formal affair to be held at a later date. Attendance at these dances has been well distributed with as many boys and girls on the mailing list attending from the north side as the south side.

San Francisco's Parental School

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, sends parents of delinquent children to Parental School—and as it's turned out, no one yet has "flunked" a course and failed to "graduate."

When a child is found guilty of delinquency, the judge puts the parents on probation and sentences them to attend school for eight consecutive meetings, held as evening classes in Galileo Evening High School and directed by M. Jay Minkler, principal of the Daniel Webster School.

The "students" are usually those parents who have been sentenced to attend by the judge of Juvenile Court, the Bureau of Family Relations of the District Attorney's office, the Police Court, and other agencies. The pupils are taught their legal, social, and religious responsibilities by speakers who are volunteers or have been assigned by cooperating agencies.

The school's curriculum includes classes in health, mental hygiene, social services, religion, work, school counseling, recreation, and legal responsibility. During the period on recreation, a member of the City Playground Department maps a wholesome program and urges parents to see that their children participate. When the required courses are completed there are no final exams, but the parents fill out a questionnaire telling what the classes have done for them.

The school, created on May 3, 1943, and designed to combat juvenile delinquency in San Francisco, recently gave "diplomas" to more than 200 "graduates" and not a single "repeater" enrolled in the course.

The results of this unique school have been very gratifying. Several husbands and wives have been reconciled, children have been taken back from foster homes, and mothers of former delinquents have written glowing letters of tribute. Letters of inquiry have come from other cities all over the country requesting further information on the program so they can adapt San Francisco's plan to their own community. Some towns have already set up similar programs of their own.

The whole idea behind this school is expressed in a recent statement made by Mr. Minkler, "This is putting new emphasis on an old law. Formerly, contributing to the delinquency of a minor meant committing some overt act, but the new idea is that parents are responsible morally and spiritually for that delinquency."

Bicycling as a Community Hobby

(Continued from page 234)

ports filed against them, they are notified to appear at the Bicycle Violator's School held every Saturday morning from 10:00 A. M. in the Police Training School. If the same person receives a fourth warning card, his license plate and registration certificate are suspended for ten days by the Police Department. Upon the commission of the fifth and subsequent offenses, juvenile violators are referred to the Juvenile Court authorities for more drastic disciplinary action. An average of fifty-two bicycle licenses are suspended monthly by the Police Department.

Rutland, Vermont, a little over a year ago faced a serious situation. Bicyclists showed a complete disregard for signals of any kind and for safety regulations. With 1,700 bicycles to register and a small police force, the problem of enforcing the existing ordinance was impossible without community help.

The Vermont Congress of Parents and Teachers came to the rescue. In March 1943, the safety chairman of the Congress, after talking with the Chief of Police and various community groups, presented the problem to the Parent-Teacher Council. On March 15th the Council gave the executive committee power to do what it thought best to arouse public interest.

On March 23rd, with the backing of the Mayor, a public meeting was held at which the Motor Vehicle Department showed two films, "On Two Wheels" and "Singing Wheels." After a discussion a committee of three people was appointed to formulate plans. The Superintendent of Schools made out a schedule for the showing of the films in every public and parochial school where facilities permitted. At each school Chief of Police Potter talked with the children and enlisted their help in making Rutland a safe place in which to ride a bicycle.

The plan was adopted of organizing a Bicycle Court and Bicycle Patrol to promote safe riding and the observance of highway regulations. Six pupils were chosen by the principal of each of the public and parochial schools to serve in the patrol. Each group selected its own captain, and training was given the patrol members by the Chief of Police.

For judges on the Bicycle Court six outstanding juniors at the Mount St. Joseph School and Rutland High School were selected for character and leadership ability by the principals of each school.

Instruction in proper legal procedure was given by Municipal Judge Spero. Two judges serve at a time for one month. The term of office is one year, and court is held every Saturday at 9:00 o'clock.

The duties of these groups are to see that bicycles are properly licensed and equipped and to correct careless riding. If a warning is not sufficient, flagrant violations are reported to the Police Department and a summons is issued for the violator to appear in Bicycle Court.

Patrol members are given pads of report slips. These are collected by the captains each Thursday and given to the Chief of Police or officer in charge. A police officer then approaches the parents of violators, and a warrant is issued ordering the boy or girl to appear in the Bicycle Court. Records are all filed with the Chief of Police but no names are given to the newspaper. Judge Spero supplied the court with a list of penalties and outlined the procedure for the judges to follow. The judges have taken their responsibilities very seriously and have shown remarkable tact and understanding.

On January 31, 1944, the Rotary and Lions Clubs entertained the Bicycle Court and Bicycle Patrol at dinner in appreciation of their good work. Another local club is providing new armbands for the patrol.

Rutland is very happy over the success of its plan and believes that the Bicycle Court and Patrol may be reaching more riders than would bicycle clubs.

Community Center Serves Many Groups — Salem, Virginia, a community of 5,737, has purchased a 16-acre estate which has been made into a park. On the grounds surrounded by large trees is an 18-room mansion which is used as a community center building. The purchase price of this property, $20,000, was paid out of the city's general fund.

The building is used by practically all civic organizations and luncheon clubs, most of which have dinner meetings at the building and pay the town a nominal rental charge ranging from $100 a year for the clubs meeting weekly to $25 a year for those holding monthly meetings. Other groups of citizens using the facilities pay a nominal charge. On the first floor, in addition to the completely equipped kitchen and dining room, are two large reception rooms. In the basement are a large assembly room and four other rooms used as permanent headquarters by four Boy Scout troops.

A School-Community Pageant

A PAGEANT OF AMERICAN patriotic songs by 182 boys and girls and adult musicians was presented for three nights in the auditorium of the high school at Du Bois, Pennsylvania. The admissions collected will be used for sending copies of the monthly high school newspaper to 850 former pupils now in service.

The pageant was the outgrowth of a need felt by music supervisors and administrators for finding a means of continuing the development of musicians trained from the first grade rhythm band through to the commencement quarter. These young musicians experience a letdown after graduation on finding themselves with no musical group to which they belong.

Five years ago the Du Bois schools started an adult choir which became known as the Symphonic Choir. Its concerts were so successful that a forty-five piece symphony orchestra made up of musicians from Du Bois and surrounding towns was started, and a players' group of alumni and other adults was organized. These groups put on concerts and plays until the war curtailed their activities.

The recent patriotic pageant brought together the choirs of the senior and junior high schools, the adult Symphonic Choir, and the school band augmented with adult musicians. Together they presented a school-community program made up of the songs which have been sung in this country in times of national stress from Revolutionary days to the present, winding up with "This Is My Country." The school music supervisor wrote a continuity which bound the songs together and showed the growth of the American spirit. This was read by an experienced radio announcer.

Each of the three choirs was trained separately until a month before the performance, when they were combined under one conductor. The band rehearsed alone until the last two weeks. The performance began with the massed choirs outside the entrance to the auditorium singing the national anthem with the band and the audience. Senior high school and adult singers, dressed in black gowns owned by the school, and junior high school singers in white surplices created an impressive effect.

Nearly every department of the senior high school was represented in the production or its preparation. Vocational instructors and pupils built up the stage in tiers. The art department

decorated the stage, and designed and made window posters. The dramatic club and its adviser handled lights and stage arrangements. The commercial department had charge of the sale of tickets. Home rooms cooperated by having each pupil carry his chair to the stage and take it back in the morning after each rehearsal and performance. — Taken from *The Nation's Schools,* June 1944.

"We Can Build It"

(Continued from page 260)

advantageous position, assigning and supervising school guards to safeguard the school children while crossing the streets, and performing many other tasks which fall on the Bureau's broad shoulders.

The amount of work that can be undertaken at any one time at the Bureau's busy workshop in the basement of the Municipal building is limited, though anyone seeing the results accomplished would find this hard to believe. Setting up swing frames and seesaw outfits, cutting pipes to size and threading them are only a small part of the day's work for members of the Safety Bureau. The fact that they found time to repair doll carriages for children at one of the parks may be reflected in the name of one of the parks, unofficially known as Costy Park in honor of Sergeant Costy, whose work along with the efforts of his men is greatly appreciated by patrons of this park.

The Bureau has adopted several parks as their favorites, though any preference would be denied were the question put up to the members, and they are very proud of their development.

It is gratifying to note that Township Manager Paul A. Volcker and Police Chief Harte encourage the men to take this active part in the development of the recreation program. Without such active cooperation of the Safety Bureau the children of Teaneck would not have the benefit of the sandboxes, box hockey boxes, climbing boards, seesaw sets, basketball standards, utility boxes, and many other pieces of equipment which will go a long way toward making it possible for the citizens of Teaneck to find the recreation they are seeking in their own community.

It is small wonder that the 28,000 inhabitants of this suburban community take their hats off to a Police Department that is a friend of the people as well as their protector, and a Safety Bureau ready, willing, and able to build anything that the Superintendent of Recreation can put on paper!

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Audubon Magazine, May-June, 1944

On Choosing a Summer Camp, Dorothy E. Bliss

Beach and Pool, May 1944

Beach Accidents—Their Causes and How to Avoid Them, C. P. L. Nicholls

Pool Problems, Verbatim Report of Subjects Discussed at the Convention of the National Association of Amusement Parks

The Camping Magazine, May 1944

Camp Records and Record Keeping, A. Alice Drought

Conversation or Conservation, Kenneth A. Howland

Experiments in Inter-racial Camping, Harry Serotkin

Food Rationing Amendments for Camps

The Catholic Charities Review, May 1944

Delinquency: A Community Problem, Hon. G. Howland Shaw

Childhood Education, May 1944

"The More Deeply We Live," Rena M. Erickson

The Living Wilderness, May 1944

The Future of National Forests and National Parks, Lyle F. Watts and Newton B. Drury

The Nation's Schools, June 1944

New Postwar Objectives for Physical Education, Elmer D. Mitchell

A Unique Athletic Unit, Oliver M. Hazen

PAMPHLETS

Leadership in Public Recreation, A playground manual

Recreation Division, City of Danville, 420 Municipal Building, Danville, Virginia

Let's Take Stock of Our Children

Program Service, Number 5, Reader's Digest, Pleasantville, New York

Low Organized Games for the Playground

Wisconsin Recreation Association, 3841 West St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Parent-Teacher Manual, 1944

National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 600 S. Michigan Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

Simplified Camping, Kenneth W. Reynolds

Program Service, Boys' Clubs of America, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York

The Square and Its Uses, M. M. Romig

Published by Douglas Fir Plywood Association, 205 East 42nd Street, New York 17. Price 25 cents

Victory Gardens for Community, Home, School, 1944

Compiled by Dr. Lili Heimers, Teaching Aids Service of the Library, New Jersey State Teachers College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. Price 25 cents

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Firelight Entertainments

A Handbook of Campfire Programs. By Margaret K. Soifer. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17. Fleming H. Revell Company, 158 Fifth Avenue, New York 10. $1.50.

HERE ARE SEVENTEEN colorful and picturesque entertainments which will help to turn history into vivid, exciting drama and create romance out of the commonplace. They grew out of many summer evenings spent around campfires in both children's and adults' camps and are intended for the use of all who have the responsibility of guiding groups in the presentation of informal entertainments, whether indoors or out, on the ground or on a stage, with or without a campfire. Group rather than individual effort is predominant.

American Planning and Civic Annual

Edited by Harlean James. American Planning and Civic Association, 901 Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. $3.00.

PARK AND RECREATION WORKERS will be particularly interested in the material brought together on state and national park developments in 1943. Although war conditions, particularly travel restrictions, have definitely affected civilian use of state and national parks, reports included in the manual show that in many state and national parks there has been a definite increase in use because of the accessibility of the areas to servicemen. The manual covers also the fields of housing, conservation, and postwar planning and public works programs.

Music in the City

By Max Kaplan, B. E., M. Mus. Music Department, Pueblo Junior College, Pueblo, Colorado. $2.50.

MR. KAPLAN, with the help of several of his students at Pueblo Junior College, has collected a large amount of detailed information about the musical resources of Pueblo, Colorado. He has organized this material under six headings: (1) Agencies of Musical Education, (2) Agencies of Musical Circulation, (3) Agencies of Musical Production, (4) Agencies of Musical Consumption, (5) Sociological Application in Musical Studies, (6) and Conclusions and Recommendations.

The study not only collects most of the available local facts about musical activities but attempts to analyze the sociology in which the music functions. Although there is very little subjective evaluation, the data provides a basis for a number of suggestions for improvement of music in Pueblo and uncovers many problems for research. The task which Mr. Kaplan undertook demonstrates a highly commendable interest on his part in the whole community and a desire to make music function more effectively in the lives of all the people.

Let's Build

By Constance Homer Crocker. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. $1.50.

THIS BOOK TELLS CHILDREN the simplest way to make toys and other articles. The diagrams and instructions have been prepared in such a way that a seven or eight year old child can follow them himself with occasional help from an adult.

The Dog as a City Pet

Education Department, The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. 50 Madison Avenue, New York 10. $.15.

BECAUSE OF THE INTEREST of children of elementary and junior high school age in pets, animals occupy an important place in the curriculum, especially that of the elementary school. For more than two years the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has kept a record of the various inquiries received from children and teachers. Approximately 80 per cent of these concerned dogs. Some of the children's inquiries came as the result of their study of the dog in school. Many more came apparently because the children needed or wanted to know something about their dogs.

To meet this need, the Association has prepared a mimeographed bulletin presenting material for the use of teachers about dogs and their care. Children, too, will be able to use the material to advantage. There are lists of motion picture films on dogs and some helpful books and pamphlets.

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The Recreation Worker Starting a New Year

BE NOT ASHAMED or hesitant to call yourself a recreation worker.

You meet one of the earliest and most fundamental needs of men.

No king in ancient days had a more important place.

It is good to be a priest and help men see the meaning of life. It is good to be a doctor and keep men well. It is good to be a teacher and make it easy for men to acquire knowledge and wisdom. It is good to be a farmer and feed men, a laborer and build homes. It is good to be doing something that always and everywhere, from the beginning of time to eternity, is central, deep, real, unquestioned by those who are wise. Few are the tasks that qualify for this. Of these few one is recreation leadership.

Men must eat, must have a place to sleep, need help to keep well, need to keep their souls alive, need to study, learn, need to work. But the child and the man also need to have fun, simple fun. They need to laugh, to sing, to pretend, not to be too serious all the time. There is rhythm inside man which needs to come out. Man was made to swim, to skate. Eating and sleeping and learning mean nothing if a child or a man has lost his essential nature and become just a bit of machinery.

You do not need to prove to the child that baseball, swimming, skating, just having fun is important. The child would think you crazy if you tried to prove it. He knows he has to breathe, eat and have fun.

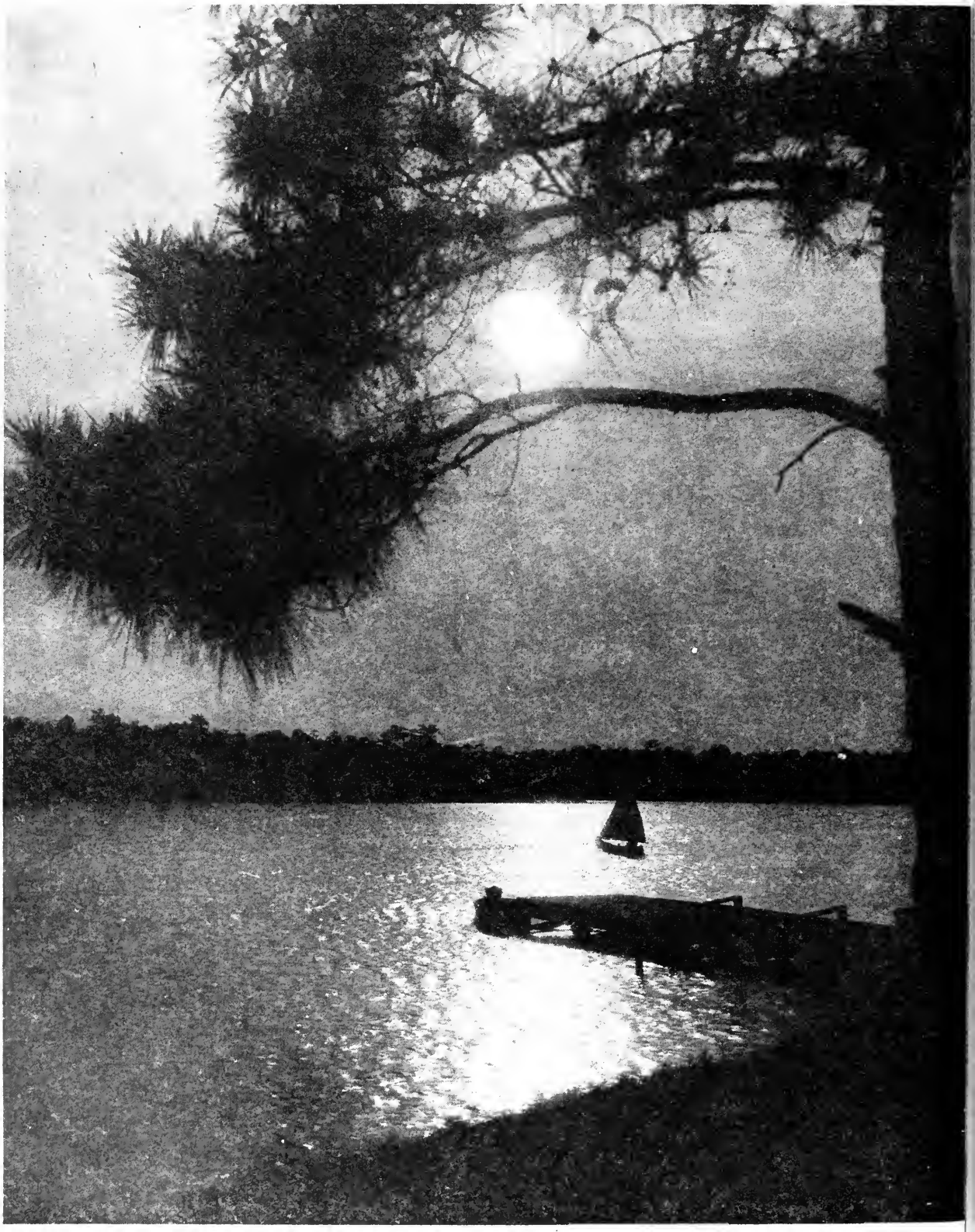
The wise men have seen and been sure as have the little children that simple fun, abundant living, is important. Dr. L. P. Jacks, great Oxford scholar, editor for years of the *Hibbert Journal,* recognized as one of the great educators and thinkers of this generation, said: "I am more interested in what you are doing in the recreation movement in America than in anything else in the world."

Right down in the grass roots, on the soil in the neighborhood is where it is of supreme importance to help children and all people cooperatively to arrange times and places so that always in his free time the child and the man shall be able to do what he most wants to do just for fun. If we make it easy for the Tom Sawyers and the Huckleberry Finns and all of us to live gloriously—to fish, to hunt, to sail, to swim, when we have a little time for ourselves—then many ills that come from stagnant life are less likely to appear. The substantial people of the United States now recognize that we should not leave to the devil the simple good fun which belongs to the Lord.

The recreation worker is important. Helping to make all life glorious, challenging, absorbing, vital, is no mean task for the best and the wisest.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

September



Courtesy Virginia State Chamber of Commerce

The Daytona Beach Youth Council

By RUBY LEE GOLDMAN and PATRICIA GARDNER

The story of the Youth Center of Daytona Beach, Florida, as told by two members of its Youth Council

IN PLANNING for Daytona Beach's Youth Center, the City Recreation Board requested high school teachers, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. secretaries to select four representative students from each of the last four grades of the three local high schools. On Wednesday, August 6, 1941, the students so selected met with their sponsors and the city Recreation Board, and after being asked what recreation they wished, the high school students prepared a list of activities and projects desired by them.

So it was that a Youth Council was formed to provide recreation and better recreation facilities and to create and maintain higher ideals while following a threefold program of (1) education, (2) civic youth participation, and (3) planned and supervised recreation.

The Council was composed entirely of young people between fourteen and nineteen with an adult advisory board composed of individuals and representatives of various organizations interested in young people. The guiding spirit of the whole movement since its inception has been W. J. Gardiner, a Daytona Beach attorney, who has the welfare of youth as one of his primary interests.

At legislative meetings held weekly on Wednesday evenings, the students formulate their own plans and appoint committees to execute plans. From the beginning the Council has served as a training ground for civic leaders. It has brought together students from all our high schools and given them an opportunity to know each other and cooperate on a city-wide basis.

Finding a Home

From the start the need of a center for youth was a matter of prime importance. The shuffleboard clubhouse, which is vacant two months of every year, was the first place used. Here the Council organized dances and all-day fun fests supervised by adults interested in the Youth Council program. These first get-togethers were an amazing success, so when it was time to move out of the shuffleboard clubhouse, the city let the Youth Council use the City Island Casino for dances and programs.

A bazaar, the proceeds of which went to the Red Cross, was the next big 1941 project of the Youth Council. During the summer, beach picnics were popular. A softball league was formed and nine teams were in the competition for championship. Classes in sports and dancing were started under the guidance of skilled men and women. The Youth Council produced two highly successful plays exhibiting experience in acting, make-up, and stage setting.

In the summer of 1943 the city provided money for a trained director and current expenses. At this time the Youth Council moved again. The owners loaned to the Youth Council the Pier Casino, a former night club situated on the long fishing pier over the ocean. Here, despite the nightly blackout, dances and parties were often in progress. An orchestra of Youth Council members was formed which played once a week for dances. Members of the Council made ping-pong tables and provided table games. Several of the boys took over the soft drink concession and the setup was nearly ideal.

A questionnaire was submitted to each of the high school students in September 1943, asking for information about how the student spent his leisure time and about what activities he would like

Daytona Beach has always had the subject of recreation very much at heart. For many years seekers after health and pleasure have found them here during the entire year, and the City Commission, through the Recreation Board, has spent large sums of money to provide recreation. There was one group, however, that felt neglected—the youth of high school age. So they held panel discussions in school and before civic clubs in the hope of reaching the ears of the City Commission and Recreation Board, and they were successful. In the summer of 1941 the Recreation Board took action.

Governor Holland and his wife attended the dedication of the "Drop-In" and were very active in the proceedings. "This is too fine an occasion to spoil it with speaking," said the Governor, "so on with the dance."

made available by the Youth Council for subsequent recreation activities.

The owners of the Pier Casino wanted to use the building this past winter, so the boys and girls of the Youth Council were once more without a place to meet and have good times. They wanted a real "drop-in" near the center of town, easily accessible to all.

Permanently Located at Last!

The Y.M.C.A. came to the rescue with an empty store and a large garage adjoining it. This was it! Something they could all help change into a clubhouse of their own! Work began immediately, with students from three high schools coming on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to sandpaper, wash, plaster, paint, and otherwise remodel the building. Members of the Adult Advisory Board helped supervise and order material. Financial support was given by the city, individuals, and clubs.

The store building, which was long and narrow, was converted to a lounge in the front and a game room in the back. Wicker furniture, donated by clubs, was enameled with bright green, yellow, or red paint and slip-covers were made. Curtains were provided by members of the Adult Advisory Board. Walls and woodwork were done in ivory. The girls' powder room was painted peach and blue and dressed up with chintz. The garage with a cement floor was turned into the "Jive Dive," a room for dancing. Soft green paint decorates the walls and snack bar. Bright yellow and white checked curtains and a yellow awning over the snack bar serve to brighten the room.

Work was rushed to a high peak when Senator Claude Pepper and Governor Spessard Holland were expected to visit the city. Instead of having work parties once each week, the students joined with their new director and members of the Advisory Board in working daily after school. On February 1, 1944, the finishing touches were completed and a large group assembled in the afternoon to meet Senator Claude Pepper. Senator Pepper was so pleased with the project that he requested this history be written and sent to him for filing with the United States Senate Subcommittee on Wartime Health and Education of which he is chairman. The following evening an opening reception and dance was held with Governor and Mrs. Holland and members of the City Commission as special guests.

Some of the Activities

The "Drop-In" has proved to be a grand success, and is open six afternoons and four nights a week. It is fast becoming a favorite spot of the younger set. Membership cards at twenty-five cents per year are issued, and everyone is happy. This small charge was voted by the Youth Council to give the members a sense of belonging and to create a fund for contest prizes.

The next projects will be the building of an outdoor fireplace and the construction of badminton and volley ball courts in the rear of the building.

Ping-pong tournaments and tennis lessons are now in progress. It is hoped that as time goes on more hobby groups can be established under volunteer leadership. The Junior Red Cross sends an adult leader once a week to assist students in making scrapbooks for military hospitals.

In November 1943, the Youth Council adopted a formal charter providing for representation from each school in proportion to its size, on an administrative board. This charter was put in effect in February 1944. The Administrative Board continues to meet each Wednesday night, and jointly with the Adult Advisory Board every three months. Some of the adult advisors usually meet with the Administrative Board and the officers of the Youth Council attend the monthly meetings of the Youth Council Adult Advisory Board.

The Adult Advisory Board also has a constitution which correlates with the Youth Council charter. This Board meets the fourth Tuesday of each month and makes suggestions on matters of policy and arranges to have adult hosts and hostesses to assist the director in social events. Youth Council members are welcome to meet with the Administrative Board and the Advisory Board.

The city furnishes most of the money required for the Youth Council; however, some individuals and several civic clubs have made donations of time and money to the Youth Council project. Partly, it is believed, as a result of the Youth Council, Daytona Beach has one of the lowest juvenile delinquency records of any city in the South.

The teen-agers of West Orange, New Jersey, have caught the alphabetical fever and have named their canteen "WOTAC," the letters standing for "West Orange Teen Age Canteen."

Sponsored by the War Services Division of the West Orange Defense Council, the canteen provides a meeting place for boys and girls fifteen years of age and over. Headquarters are in the auditorium of one of the schools, and the canteen is open every Friday and Saturday night from 8 to 11 P.M. The young people have decorated the auditorium, adopting a motif of red, white, and blue. Blue drapes have been hung at the windows, and a set of wicker furniture has been painted red.

Approximately 225 boys and girls paid their membership dues of 50 cents for the month of March, and a goodly number of guest fees were received. A paid director has been placed in charge with the hearty cooperation of the teen-agers themselves.

Interestingly enough, the teen-agers voted not to have the traditional juke box, and use a victrola which plays eight records in succession.

They all worked hard getting things shipshape for their famous visitors

Juvenile Delinquency—A Challenge to Music

What is your opinion of the relationship of popular music to juvenile delinquency? A number of leaders in the musical world have been discussing the subject recently, and they haven't always agreed! *Musical America,* in an editorial in the January 25th issue, made such an interesting contribution to the subject that we secured permission to reprint it in RECREATION.

THE RECENT exchange of verbal brickbats between Artur Rodzinski and Frank Sinatra on the subject of current styles in popular music and their possible contribution to juvenile delinquency raises a serious issue that has wanted attention for some time. Dr. Rodzinski declared "the style of boogie woogie which appeals to hep cats is the greatest cause of delinquency among American youth today," to which Mr. Sinatra retorted: "I don't know exactly what the causes of juvenile delinquency are, but I don't think any one can prove that popular music is one of them." Subsequently, other musicians, including Leopold Stokowski, have added their voices variously to the controversy.

We hold no brief for the swooner-crooner nor for most of the things he represents, musically. But we think he has a better case in this instance than the distinguished conductor of the Philharmonic, and we think he has placed the burden of responsibility where it belongs. The response of modern juvenilia to swing and boogie woogie is not basically different, in kind or purport, from the physical reactions to rhythm of the first man who struck the first drum at the dawn of civilization, of the be-wigged courtier who pranced to the minuet, the Viennese who whirled to the waltz or the Hungarian who toed the Czardas. An emotional catharsis through music, of whatever stamp, is neither degenerate nor malicious. To say so is a tactical error in the approach to the whole problem of musical illiteracy and places the accuser in a virtually indefensible position.

Moreover, Dr. Rodzinski misses one of the principal implications of his charge: if popular music is contributing to juvenile delinquency, what is serious music doing to correct the condition? In our opinion, it is doing very little; certainly far less than it can and should. The social aspects of music have been far too little exploited in the interest of social enlightenment and progress, especially among children growing up under present war conditions. There are, of course, the traditional concerts for young people presented by our symphony orchestras and other organizations. Some groups, including the National Music League, are planning redoubled efforts to engage the passive interest of restless youth in abnormal times. These are laudable projects as far as they go. But they do not go far enough.

Action is the keynote of youth, and active participation in educative musical projects could be a powerful antidote for the mischievous forces which axiomatically find work for idle hands. Within every community there are organizations qualified to sponsor and supervise after-school and evening music activity programs—choruses, glee clubs, bands, orchestras, musical entertainments, operettas and the like. Most music clubs, public schools and similar institutions have at their command the necessary facilities and personnel to conduct such activities, and they could do a tremendous morale job on the home front if they put that machinery to work on an all-out basis.

It will be said that such activities already are available to children under school auspices. But the trouble is that most school projects are carried on during school hours, leaving the time between the dismissal bell and bedtime unoccupied, and that they are only open to, or at least only attractive to, children with some special musical talent or interest. The activities we contemplate would be open to all children and would appeal to them on a social as well as a musical basis. And they would take place in those twilight hours that represent such a dangerous void for unguided youngsters in war-disrupted families.

In sponsoring such programs, people sincerely interested in the propagation of serious music would not only perform a magnificent service for their communities but would also be paying comparatively light premiums on a large insurance policy against the day when these children will have become adults and taken their place in the cultural life of the community. People who come to know and love music in childhood seldom desert it in later life. For them there will be no moot points as to the social significance of different types of music and there will be no need for the Rodzinski or the Sinatra of their day to tell them what music is doing to them.

Recreation in Municipal Parks

By MILO F. CHRISTIANSEN
Superintendent of Recreation
Washington, D. C.

Some extracts from an address given at the National War and Peace Fitness Conference held under the auspices of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, meeting in New York City, April 24-27, 1944.

DESPITE WAR problems and restrictions "Recreation in Municipal Parks" has been a vital factor in maintaining community morale, community discipline and community solidarity. Thousands of children, youth, and adults have discovered or rediscovered the fact that the parks have a wide range of facilities and activities which provide for the keen enjoyment of everyone.

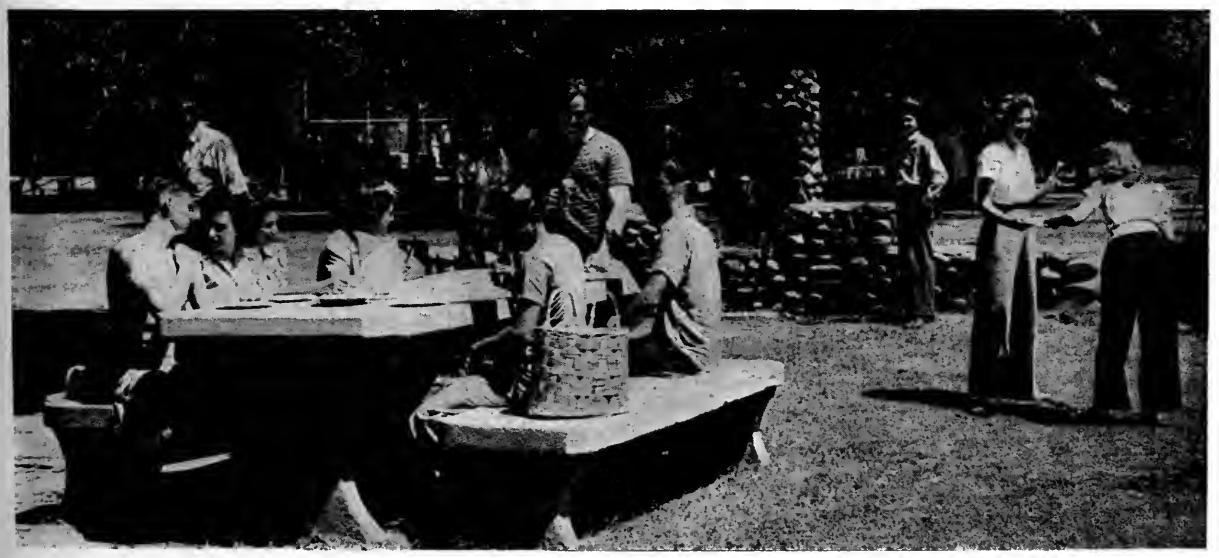
Rarely does the local park planner or park executive post "Keep off the grass" signs. He, like the recreation executive, is anxious that parks render maximum services while protecting the natural features and landscape qualities. Marked strides have been made during the past decade to provide additional recreational services in municipal parks. Opportunities have been made available by the planner and the landscape architect through increased understanding and appreciation of public needs. Facilities have been designed and sections or portions of park areas have been set aside so that nature's gifts will receive only a minimum of abuse. On the other hand many park departments own or control extensive properties, some of which were selected and developed for active recreational use.

Types of Facilities and Activities

In many of the larger municipal parks one will find almost every facility and activity from the intensive to the extensive types of passive and active recreation. While it may seem unnecessary to describe park recreation, it is interesting to observe that a wide array of opportunities may be found which cover a broad field of human interests. Moreover, the quality and quantity of park recreational resources have been made effective by an increased recognition of qualified recreation leadership. In some communities the program has extended beyond the confines of the park properties and has led to operation on a community-wide basis.

An unfortunate condition exists in most communities in that citizens and public officials are uninformed as to available resources. Persons who have resided in a community for several years are often the poorest informed. Constant effort must be made to familiarize the citizenry with existing

Parks of Mesa, Arizona, are used for many purposes. This group is enjoying a picnic.



and proposed facilities. Most recreation officials now recognize that attitudes determine recreational interests. "Activities" is a term for classifying them once they have been established. An exhaustive list of "activities" or "attitudes" will not be attempted here. Only the well-established will be referred to in this presentation.

Picnicking. Most commonly accepted park diversions are individual and group picnicking. This necessitates running water, firewood, fireplaces, tables, benches, and sanitation. Then there are canoeing, boating on lakes, streams or the ocean front, also swimming, diving, and water sports. At many parks where there are no natural swimming facilities pools have been installed. There is hiking along park trails or through the woods; horseback riding on bridle paths; tennis, golf, archery, baseball, horseshoes, bowling on the green, trap shooting; dancing and roller skating at outdoor lighted pavilions; observing various types of wildlife or plantlife; participating in plays, pageants or operettas in the outdoor or sylvan theaters; and enjoying the beauty of the park landscape. The increased popularity of winter sports has opened new areas of interest on park properties which previously had been unused during cold weather. Then, too, there are playgrounds for children, some of which are provided with equipment, sandboxes, spray and wading pools.

Day Camps. A fast growing and popular recreation program is the increase in the provision of day camps. Park officials have been quick to realize the far-reaching value of the day camp program which differs considerably from the playground program in the experiences and opportunities made available to youth. Typical programs include flag-raising, overnight camping, outdoor cooking, hiking, map-making, nature study, outdoor crafts, camp clean-up and routine. Here youth assemble under qualified leadership to learn of nature's gifts and methods of adapting one's self to outdoor conditions.

While it is true that for the park official day camps increase problems related to sanitation and protection of the landscape, individual and group benefits derived far outweigh vandalism and destruction. Park planners have skillfully laid out areas in naturalistic surroundings. A sense of being far away from the humdrum of traffic and gasoline odors is created although the "day campers" may be only a few minutes' hike away from public transportation and probably less than an hour's time away from home.

The war has been directly responsible for a rapid growth in the day camp's popularity. Many youth who previously attended vacation group camps have found them no longer available because of transportation, personnel, and ration difficulties.

Park Recreation for Servicemen. Servicemen in the army camps have been among the most constant users of our parks. Here service personnel can participate in active forms of recreation or they can stretch out on the grass, or under the trees, and gaze up into the sky—removed from all forces of regimentation and formality. The girl friend's Kodak and a few sandwiches often add to the enjoyment of the occasion!

Many communities have organized various entertainments, community sings, and band concerts. Park officials have bent every effort to provide pleasure for service personnel and also the war worker.

Parks More Widely Used

Travel restrictions, gasoline and tire rationing have stimulated increased use of our parks. The vacationer, the week-end recreation seeker, have discovered that there is a wealth of recreational opportunities in their own backyard. By the same token, citizens have been quick to realize park recreation deficiencies. Generally speaking, however, the war is having a beneficial effect in pointing to the need for permanent provision of a wide array of recreational services, as well as additional acreage.

But the park administrator has felt the war-created problems too. Lack of manpower, difficulties in securing certain equipment, supplies, and materials are only a part of the headaches. Increased demands have aggravated the condition so that park maintenance, construction and development have been most difficult.

It is interesting to note that most park and recreation budgets have "held their own." Some have

Mr. Christiansen stresses the fact that the term "juvenile delinquency" has been used so carelessly in its relation to recreation that to many people delinquency and recreation are synonymous. "Nothing could be more unfortunate," he says. "Recreation, the newest member of the community family, has become a full-grown child, able to see to its own subsistence and nourishment. It does not need to ride the juvenile delinquency band wagon. It has established itself as a natural, normal, and healthy individual. It is taking its place in the community family along with education and health."

increased their annual appropriations to provide for increased needs.

One of the facts to keep in mind in a consideration of municipal parks and the recreation activities they provide is that in 1940 there were over 400,000 acres of park property in 1,200 communities. Over a third of this acreage has been acquired in the last 15 years.

Trends in Physical Education

The surprising facts revealed by the Army and Navy regarding poor health and physical conditions of our youth are of major concern to all youth-serving agencies and organizations. Certain trends may be noted.

It has recently been reported that since Pearl Harbor there has been marked increase in the provision of physical education for boys and girls. In a recent survey report made by Dr. David Brace and Miss Dorothy LaSalle of the Office of Education, it is learned that there are significant trends which we as public officials should note. More boys and girls are required to take physical education training and additional periods and extension of hours have been made. There has been a marked trend in accelerating the more active and strenuous types of physical training, including swimming and lifesaving instruction. There is a tendency to decrease the teaching of skills for the less strenuous activities. There is a marked increase in health education instruction.

In analyzing these trends, it is reasonable to assume that our youth will demand additional park facilities which provide for the more active types of recreation. Recreation activities of the physical and body contact types should increasingly be considered by the park and recreation planners.

Transition-Postwar Planning Period

The average person interprets the period following the signing of the World War II peace treaties as the postwar period. While technically correct, if our planning of postwar programs is limited to an approximate date this interpretation is inadequate. We are now in a transition period. Over a million servicemen have returned to civilian life because of injuries, rejections, and for other reasons. Many communities have already closed out or are reducing armament production. Immediate plans should be made for what is now going on.

A significant defect in community planning is the lack of effective methods or devices by which responsible agencies or individuals can pool their technical experience and knowledge. This accounts for the lack of quality as well as quantity in our recreational resources.

The physical educator, the park and city planner, the recreation executive, and others must plan together so that the taxpayer and the consumer may receive maximum results. In many communities there is a planning—but of the individual type in which the schools, the parks, and the recreation agencies each acts independently.

The public works program following the cessation of hostilities — and almost everyone admits that there will be one—will provide funds for those communities that have actually completed plans and specifications so that immediate employment and work projects can commence. But who usually gets the lion's share of these funds? The highway, street, and sewer departments, the health and the welfare departments, are usually the recipients. These are all worthwhile and essential community services. But provision of recreational opportunities too many times has been at the bottom of the priority list. So it behooves every public official who is interested in providing recreation to take immediate steps to see that his own community contrives to have plans and specifications completed before the public works program becomes a reality.

We are fortunate in our city in that a regular and effective device is in operation whereby key officials of the various administrative agencies meet regularly to process plans for recreational needs in the parks, the municipal playgrounds, the school buildings and school playgrounds, and the housing projects. This device is our Coordinating Committee on Recreation Plans which is composed of public school officers including the directors of physical education, the planning and executive officials of the Parks office, the Municipal Architect's representative, planners from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the municipal repair shop engineer, the Recreation Department officials, the executive secretary of the recreation division of the Council of Social Agencies.

There have been suggestions of late encouraging communities to construct useful types of "memorials" and "monuments" after the war. Experience has proved too often in the past that millions of dollars have been collected or solicited for memorials which have no useful purpose except to com-

(Continued on page 335)

What They Say About Recreation

"LIFE CANNOT BE RICH and wholesome unless it includes play."—*Howard W. Hopkirk* in *Institutions Serving Children.*

"We have everything that it takes for a truly great movement in art; and when the war is over, if our artists work side by side with the moral courage shown by our soldiers, we shall have a lasting victory in an art designed for and by a democratic nation." — *Thomas Craven* in *The Story of Painting.*

"Sport carries the patterns of behavior that come out of the culture in which it grows."—From *Sports: Their Organization and Administration,* by *Jesse F. Williams* and *William L. Hughes.*

"My heart, which is full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary."—*Martin Luther.*

"Handicraft is not one subject or phase of accomplishment. It is a vast network of interrelated trails that lead into almost every gateway that human knowledge has opened."—*Ellsworth Jaeger.*

"While workers toil for victory, recreation offers them one of the few areas of freedom left in a world mobilized for war. This sphere of freedom they cherish, not only for themselves alone but for their children as well." — From *Spare Time, A War Asset for War Workers.*

"With real freedom go a sense of obligation and responsibility which are not accompaniments of uninhibited, uncontrolled, and undirected instincts."—*Dr. William Fleck.*

"Reading, for young children, is rarely a pleasure in isolation, but comes through shared pleasure and constant, discerning exposure to books so that they fall naturally into the category of pleasant necessities, along with food, sleep, music, and all out-of-doors." — *Annis Duff* in *Bequest of Wings.*

"Make way for the dance! See if it does not repay a thousandfold. It will enlarge the horizon, give meaning to many things now hidden, new power to the self, a new value to existence."—*Ruth St. Denis.*

"Sport, which keeps the flag of idealism flying, is perhaps the most saving grace in the world at the moment, with its spirit of rules kept and regard for the adversary, whether the fight is going for or against."—*John Galsworthy.*

"Let us so construct and conduct our camps that the greatest amount of wholesome and democratic living will accrue to each individual." — *L. B. Sharp.*

"America must be made a nation of communities in which satisfying home life is experienced by an ever-increasing number of individuals."—*Bernice Baxter* and *Rosalind Cassidy* in *Group Experience—The Democratic Way.*

"The city can no longer forget its obligation to its children and its duty to the future. It must bind all efforts toward success."—*Lois Sager* in *Preventing Wartime Delinquency.*

"In times like these when dependence must be placed upon qualities of courage and readiness for sacrifice, every ennobling influence that stimulates these qualities must be brought to bear. Music in wartime has this very special place."—*K. D. Scott* in *Games and Songs in Wartime.*

"A club needs programs and activities which are alive and varied if it is to retain the interest of its members over a period of time. . . ." — From *Y Boys' Clubs.*

"Passive happiness is slack and insipid and soon grows mawkish and intolerable. Some austerity and wintry negativity, some roughness, danger, stringency and effort must be mixed in to produce the sense of existence with character, texture, and power."—*William James.*

"Good sportsmanship and enthusiastic interest in games and sports are among our cherished American ideals, for they promote good social attitudes, physical skill, and stamina—all important attitudes in a democracy."—From *Leadership of Girl Scout Troops.*

"Competitive games, team games, as we've known them in our nation, have always developed the will to win in our nation."—*Captain A. W. Radford.*

The Girl He Left Behind

By MADELENE F. COOK

No, it isn't a rolling pin, and Mother isn't chasing Dad with it. She's trying to "beat the ball" to first base. Mother is playing baseball.

WHAT ABOUT the girl he left behind, the wife he left behind, or the girl current music says would "be so nice to come home to"? What is she going to do with her spare time?

"Stay at home in your own backyard" or "Hoe your victory garden" have become practical war slogans, but the teen age and the twenty-year-old youth of America don't want to stay at home doing this all the time. Thousands of young people, girls, and women are now working between high school and college terms with no vacation when they never worked before. Everyone is working overtime. Working is a wonderful experience, but after a while everything gets boring because Johnny's gone off to the war and even Dad may have gone. Young girls graduated from high school regret that high school parties are no more. They are talking in the past tense.

"Gee, we used to have so much fun dancing at the Sandwich Shop. I remember that day we drove over to the lake — and remember, Jimmy threw me in the water," is the typical conversation.

They're getting old dreaming in the past and sitting at home nights reading their magazines. Their mothers and dads are getting very old listening to "I used to" stories and missing the members of their families who are gone, when they could be doing something to keep their home life normal for the time when Johnny comes marching home.

Social life and recreation are missing from our once normal life in the community and family. In many communities where there are no servicemen stationed, young girls and women are working and no longer dating, dancing, or going to parties as they would in peacetime. In the absence of our country's young men, parents, as well, no longer have the same social or family life.

Sports would be the answer for a recreational outlet except that few civilians now have leisure hours during the day. In places where servicemen have been stationed the answer to entertainment for them has been almost entirely in terms of a dance.

Bring the family to the local playground or a vacant lot to watch the new baseball team after dinner tonight. Ask some servicemen, too, but bring the whole family. The baseball is modified to a softball game because dads are playing daughters, sons are up to bat against fathers, or teen age girls are playing with the Army.

A Co-Rec Evening

The Women's Recreational Association of the Pennsylvania State College made a success of an evening of sports which they called a "Co-Rec Evening" because men and women participated in the same activities. It featured a softball game with a marine-coed team playing a sailor-coed team. Both men and women competed in the badminton, archery, ping-pong, bridge, and volley ball games that were set up out of doors on Holmes Field. Servicemen and civilian students training at the College entered into the fray as first basemen or as cheering spectators. Standing,

This article is based on the Co-Rec Evening of sports sponsored by the Women's Recreational Association of Pennsylvania State College. It concerns itself with the maintenance of a normal social life — thus with the normal family life of the wives, families, and sweethearts of servicemen.

playing, or sitting watching, they stayed until dark on the grassy field.

"In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to baseball," announced a poster advertising the Co-Rec Evening which was held from 7:00 until dark. But the team used a softball, and five coeds with five marines on one team batted against five coeds and five V-12 sailors on the other. The coeds played the second and third bases and the outfield. Marines or Navy men played first base, pitcher, and catcher.

The badminton courts kept eight persons at a time busy retrieving shuttlecocks, and others engaged in watching. Because the courts were to be used only temporarily outside, they were lined with lime. This can be done with an ordinary tin can punched with holes about three inches across and filled with lime or flour. Shake the can and it will make a line the same width all along the edge of the court. The softball diamond can be lined in the same way.

There was plenty of room for ping-pong tables, but a space nineteen by ten feet will be room enough in which to play, for the average ping-pong table is nine by five feet wide. Some bridge enthusiasts and a few people who were not too anxious to run after a ping-pong ball or a shuttlecock filled up one bridge table, drank cokes and played until dark.

Others were more interested in the sports, and played volley ball or shot arrows into the row of targets thirty feet away. The archery range was lined up so that the arrows that missed the targets went into the ground in the field in back of them. Targets should not be placed against buildings because the arrows may bounce back from the walls or break.

Members of the Archery Club, the Badminton, and Bridge Clubs of Pennsylvania State College arranged for their respective entertainments and were present to help anyone who wanted to know the rules or needed instruction in playing certain games. The Women's Recreational Association is a women's student organization which planned the event independently. It has been an annual event for many years.

Everyone on the block, and the next block, too, can come to a party of co-recreational sports such as the one planned by these students. After long hours in a defense plant, nineteen-year-old Mary can leave an evening of sitting on the front porch and watching the sun go down, for an evening of fun with her whole family. Mary will try swinging a baseball bat if she doesn't already know how. She'll find out that her "kid" brother and her father are more fun than she thought.

Equipment for the sports can usually be obtained from high school gyms or private homes, if your recreation center does not have it.

Every boy wants to prove that his Dad can play baseball and most every Dad wants to prove that his pitching arm is still pretty good. Pennsylvania State students enjoyed watching the girls play against men, and spectators were surprised and enthusiastic when the girls knocked a few balls far out in the outfield.

Dad and Mother want to take a try at hitting the bull's-eye and want to see if they can swing a badminton racquet. They may even give their neighbor some fast returns with a ping-pong paddle. They may settle down to bridge, coke, and cookies after awhile, but they'll take to sports quite seriously with their families cheering.

Several of the sailors and marines on the softball teams play baseball for the College, but the coed members of the team didn't seem to slow the game up any. The spectators drew a quick breath when one coed tried to steal a base and returned to the base just in time to beat the ball. The game is much more exciting when stealing bases is allowed and when those watching don't have to wait for the pitcher to practice putting a ball over the plate. Only one or two practices may be enough to show Mother or Sister how to throw a straighter ball and how to swing a bat.

Some of the youngest children won't be able to take part in these more adult sports but they'll like watching them. Miniature horseshoe games and croquet will keep them busy until long after dark if they're fed cookies and a little ice cream.

A "coke bar" served as refreshment at the Co-Rec Evening. Refreshments, especially some sort of cool drink such as lemonade or punch, should be prepared to quench the thirst of the players and satisfy the always hungry children.

If the evening doesn't last long enough because of darkness, lights can be strung outdoors by means of extension cords tacked onto the badminton posts or the side of a near-by house.

A Canteen for Teen-Agers

By DOROTHY M. WOLFF

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY and what could be done to alleviate it in a community which takes in three parts of Philadelphia known as Roxborough, Manayunk and Wissahickon—that was the problem facing the Community Council of Philadelphia's twenty-first ward.

But it didn't take the Council long to find a solution to this problem—a canteen for the teen age children. In no time at all there was a committee composed of high school students and women in the community who were willing to work.

Provided with $60 from the Community Council, the committee set out to find a place to house their canteen. A local recreation center was chosen and decorated to resemble a real canteen.

One of the mothers on the committee headed a subcommittee on decoration and enlisted the services of a local commercial artist and of her own husband, a local hardware man. The artist suggested striped paper awnings over office windows and flower boxes underneath, lattice work, white fences, artificial Virginia creepers, and a bandstand built on the stairway in graduated levels. The lattice work was all donated by a local lumber company. A soda bar was rigged up surrounded by a dozen tables covered with red, white, and blue oilcloth with pennants of the local schools decorating the walls. Smoking is permitted, but is confined to the soda bar. The committee decided that if the young people weren't allowed to smoke they'd go where they could. It was soon discovered that granting the privilege has removed some of its attraction as forbidden fruit, and smoking is really very moderate in the canteen.

There's a game room with three ping-pong tables, checkers, plain and Chinese, and shuffleboard. The teen-agers find this room a fine place to get acquainted with each other, especially before the dancing gets into full swing—and the game room is usually crowded all evening.

When music was needed a student orchestra came forward and rehearsed every night for two weeks before the opening. As a fill-in during intermissions there is a juke box loaned by a man in the community. Roxborough High School supplied its amplifying system, making it

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Bradford is another Pennsylvania city which is providing a center for youth

Photo by R. D. Fraser, Bradford, Pa.

The Blair Community Center

By CAROLINE F. NEHMER
Principal, Austin-Blair Elementary School
Jackson, Michigan

WHEN THE teachers of the Austin-Blair Elementary School in Jackson, Michigan, realized last year that a recreation center for children was a definite community need for the long summer months ahead, they lost no time in finding out just how they could meet this need. Several months later, these same people could point proudly to the Blair Community Center at the Blair school where youngsters from about 10 to 12 years of age, and preschool children, too, gathered for supervised play under the experimental project.

But the Center didn't become a reality over night, for there were many difficulties in the way. Blair School is located at the very edge of the city and in an area where the delinquency rate was unusually high. Many of the students' parents are factory workers who, during the school months, adjusted their working shifts in such a way that at least one of them would be home at the time when the children were not in school. However, during the summer months many of these children were left more or less on their own.

One of the first steps taken to relieve this situation was to conduct a survey in an attempt to determine the actual needs of the children during the summer months. When the survey was completed and the data compiled, a Council, consisting of two representatives from each room in Blair School, was organized.

The Council met weekly with the school's principal to discuss interests and needs and to make recommendations. The representatives kept their classmates informed on the plans and progress of the project and all the school children were invited to make suggestions and recommendations to the representatives who, in turn, presented them at meetings. In this way the entire school had an active part in the planning and organization of the project.

Once the planning was well underway, the next problem—and no small one—was how to finance such a project.

In past years there had always been a playground supervisor during the summer months, but this worker was usually a stranger in the community and therefore not too well acquainted with the individual children and their needs. In view of this, it seemed desirable to have at least one person on the staff who was well acquainted with the individual and group needs of the community. After investigations were made, the principal was invited to explain the plans for the community center to the Executive Board of the Jackson Recreation Council.

The Board voted unanimously to finance and aid the proposed plans and the principal was appointed to act as supervisor with two assistants. The project was to be experimental, and the supervisors were free to work out their programs in the best way to meet the needs of the community.

Before the planners could go any further, more information was necessary, so a questionnaire was prepared by the principal and distributed to every family who had a child in school. Through the cooperation of the teachers and parents almost ninety-eight per cent of these questionnaires were filled out and returned.

Some of the questions included were: "Do you plan for your children to be on the playground this summer?" "What hours during the day would you like your children to be on the playground?" "Would you like to have your children stay for lunch?"

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A period was set aside for reading in the library of the Blair Community Center, and guidance in reading was given if a child requested it

Gedge Harmon

It's Time to Plan for Halloween!

Gedge Harmon

A HALLOWEEN parade has become a traditional activity of the Brattleboro, Vermont, Recreation Department. In 1943 it was the first community activity which the new superintendent was to direct, and the cooperation of the organizations and individuals in the community was tremendously encouraging.

The children, organized by classes in the schools, reported to their respective schoolrooms at 6:30 in the evening. The American Legion provided marshals for each class, and their Commander led the parade as chief marshal. Each class was taken through the back streets to the Green Street school where the parade formed, and went through the main street to the Common where prizes, provided by the Parent-Teacher Association of the four grade schools in the town, were awarded to the three boys and girls having the funniest, prettiest, and the most authentic costumes. A banner provided by the Recreation Department is awarded annually to the school having the best representation and characterization. The parade was led by the Hinsdale High School band, which was sponsored by the Lions Club.

In the past it had been the policy to give the children refreshments after they had returned to their schools, but 8:30 seemed an early hour for boys and girls to go home and be good children on Halloween night! Consequently, five churches were encouraged to give parties for different grades or groups who participated in the parade, and only the smaller children were given refreshments at their schools. The refreshments were solicited and served by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Approximately 850 grade school children participated in the parade. A masquerade was held following the parade for the high school boys and girls, with an attendance of about 250. The orchestra, which came from out of town, was paid for by funds solicited by an interested citizen. The refreshments of cider and doughnuts were donated by the Brattleboro Order of Elks. The Woman's Club provided the hostesses, and the Young Woman's Club served the refreshments. The prizes were solicited from five department stores in town. The organizations and people in the community seemed to go "all out" for a free show for the children on Halloween.

The Chief of Police stated that practically no vandalism had been reported on this Halloween night.

A gross reduction of eighty per cent in Halloween vandalism is the fine record of five years of civic cooperation in Toledo, Ohio. The story of this interesting experiment is told in annual reports of the Lucas County, Ohio, Juvenile Court, and in reports of community agencies.

In Lucas County, Ohio. It started five years ago when the probation officer of the Lucas County, Ohio, Juvenile Court, alarmed by the increase in destructive Halloween pranks, called together representatives of a group of agencies and a Halloween Committee was organized to combat the trouble.

In past years the vandalism had started around the first of October, reaching a climax on Halloween with police and fire sirens screaming in all parts of the city in a frantic effort to catch up with the youthful mischief makers. Even though only a small proportion was apprehended, it was enough to be reflected in the Juvenile Court records for October 1937, and it set the Court to thinking.

There must be a way of meeting the situation, the new Halloween Committee believed, and its final solution was parties, more parties, still more parties; enough to avoid large concentrations; in every neighborhood, all over the city; every night for a week up to and including Halloween. Everybody was to be invited and there would be no charge, but plenty of good fun under capable leadership.

Churches, schools and agencies of all kinds cooperated—in what numbers it is impossible to say definitely as the records for 1938 were not

completed. But the police records were not incomplete. They showed a decrease of five per cent in vandalism complaints, thirty per cent in false alarms, and nineteen per cent in broken lights as compared with the preceding year.

In 1939 the committee on arrangements was expanded. The schools conducted an educational campaign in the classrooms. There were 135 parties attended by nearly 50,000 people of all age groups. Result: police complaints down thirty per cent, false alarms down twenty per cent, broken lights down twenty-five per cent from the year before.

In 1940 the city council of Parent-Teacher Associations took over and sponsored the program, retaining the chief probation officer of Juvenile Court as chairman. The City Recreation Division of the Department of Public Welfare turned over all its shelter houses. An intensified campaign was carried out in every schoolroom. Forty-six churches, fifty-two schools and a hundred Boy Scout troops cooperated with the program. There were 315 parties with over 2,500 persons assisting. But the interest aroused stimulated many other groups to arrange their own small parties. Result: police complaints reduced fifteen per cent, false alarms thirty-eight per cent, broken lights sixty-one per cent from the preceding year. In three years general police calls for vandalism had fallen off nearly fifty per cent.

In 1941, under the same sponsorship and chairmanship, there were over 500 parties with more than 3,000 people serving on the various subcommittees. Police calls were down two per cent, false alarms thirty per cent, and broken lights thirty per cent from 1940.

A continuation of the Halloween program in 1942 resulted in further reduction in vandalism during this critical period. Again more than 500 separate celebrations were sponsored by the committee in charge, with a total attendance of more than 100,000 children, and with over 3,500 people serving on the various committees on arrangements. The figures show reduction in broken street lights, forty-five per cent; in false alarms, six per cent; in police calls, six per cent. October, the usual heavy month for delinquencies, took third place in 1942.

Thus, through unstinted and expanding cooperation by public agencies, notably the City Welfare Department, schools, Fire and Police Departments, and private agencies such as Parent-Teacher Associations, and churches, Halloween vandalism appears to have been brought under reasonable control. It has not been stopped. There will always be an irreducible minimum. Indications are that the campaigns will be continued so that that irreducible may be reached and maintained.

While the Juvenile Court is not by law or philosophy designed to prevent juvenile delinquency —the child comes to Court only after he is delinquent — Toledo's experience demonstrates what such a Court may accomplish by furnishing leadership to prevent delinquency and what a community can do through cooperation to provide wholesome substitutes for destructive mischief.

In Lagrange County, Indiana. According to the superintendent of the Lagrange Consolidated School, a "riproaring Halloween shebang" at the school solved the problem of vandalism in that locality. There's no admission price and the party is open to everyone, including adults. There are costumes, side shows, dancing; and the youngsters are encouraged to make as much noise as they possibly can.

The program at the school consists of stunts designed to wear the students out as well as provide them with good Halloween fun. The local merchants donate prize money for costume awards which are made after the annual parade.

For twenty-two years the program hasn't failed. Of course there are a few soaped windows here and there . . . but students themselves take charge of rectifying such damage, and the culprit cleans the window himself. (Students have a way of knowing who the pranksters are.)

Seventh and eighth graders and high school students run the side shows. High school juniors sell pumpkin pie, sweet cider, doughnuts and coffee. And there's dancing, too, 'til midnight . . . if anyone has any energy left after the parade, prizes and side shows.

To top it all there's a reward! If a checkup of the town the following day shows there was no destruction, the school gets a half-holiday. And it usually does!

Columbia's Far-Flung Recreation Program

By W. H. HARTH

The Columbia, South Carolina, Recreation Department in 1943 provided recreation for over a million soldiers and civilians, including children. The story of this achievement is told by Mr. Harth, Director of the recreation program in that city.

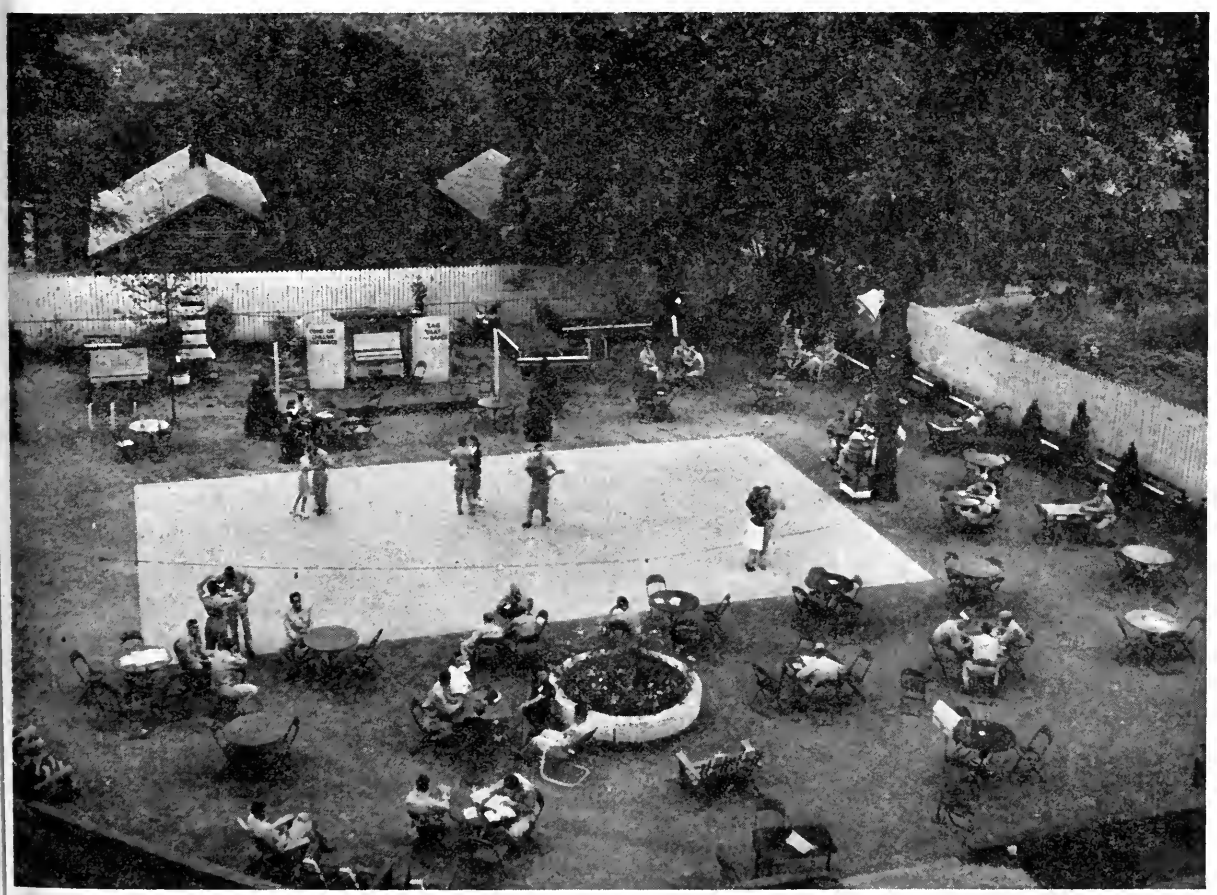
IF YOU'VE EVER had the responsibility for transporting 15,000 dancing partners to training camps near your city and getting them safely back to their homes; if you've ever attempted to provide dances over a period of years for 136,000 officers and privates, then you will appreciate some of the problems faced by our Recreation Department last year in sponsoring 273 dances for Fort Jackson and the Columbia Air Base.

Dances are only a part of our program. There's our athletic program, which was initiated when one of our recreation supervisors announced that she hoped to sponsor regular athletic engagements for teams from Fort Jackson, Columbia Army Air Base, college and career girls, servicemen's wives, and local business firms. A few months later she was able to report that these plans were realities, thus setting another record for the Department.

Considered by leaders to be among the most valuable contributions made by the athletic program are the following: 1. Troops, which, because of their temporary status at the Fort and Air Base, cannot get into scheduled athletics at their posts, are given an opportunity for engagements; 2. Recreation which might not be possible at military posts is provided and expanded by the city; 3. Army men like to come to Columbia to participate in games because it offers a change of scene and an atmosphere like that which they would have back home.

Strong support has been

The Elks' Fraternal Center offers unique facilities for social life out of doors



gained for the city's home hospitality program through which invitations are extended by Columbians and accepted by soldiers, for everything from dinner and dancing in town to luxurious week ends at wealthy Aiken winter estates. Planned exclusively for men in the service, the program entertained 17,015 of this group during 1943.

Centers Everywhere

Twenty-one centers were fully developed for year-round enjoyment of Columbians, both white and Negro, as well as the military personnel and their families stationed here.

The most typical example of Columbia's park centers is the 9½ acre Valley Park. Offered there for use of soldiers and civilians of the community are a recreation building, four well-equipped tennis courts, an excellently floodlighted softball field, movable sports equipment, a large dance patio donated last year by local organizations, and a boxing ring built recently by the city.

Three square dances a week, two military parties and a Sunday afternoon open house, with programs planned by soldiers and civilians, are scheduled regularly. The Valley Park Mothers Club helps directly with the preschool operated for youngsters too young to enroll in school. Community programs are planned by the Valley Park Patrons Club and the park's Teen Age Girls Club. The newly organized Teen Age Boys Club is engaged now in setting up its program for boys of high school age who have not yet been called for Army service. Afternoon parties are given by the teen age clubs, too.

Another outstanding park is Earlewood with its 27½ acres of beautiful woods teeming with wildflowers. Any nature lover would forget himself on this secluded hillside, just as do the little children enjoying the playground equipment. It's a veritable recreation center with tennis, softball, baseball, volley ball, table tennis, Dutch ovens, picnic shelters and a building, with kitchen, where three square dances are held weekly for the benefit of the community and military personnel for near-by Fort Jackson and Columbia Army Air Base.

Also one night is given to young people who have the entire run of the building. These young boys and girls are organized into clubs and plan their own entertainment with the assistance of the park hostesses. Two nights are open for reservations. On Sunday, open house is enjoyed and refreshments are served.

From early morning until late at night this park is active with its morning preschool, afternoon playground and nightly soldier entertainment. Here, too, the community participates in activities through various clubs.

Arsenal Hill, whose name is derived from being an arsenal during the Civil War, furnishes entertainment six nights a week to soldiers and civilians alike. Two square dances are held weekly. The Armyettes, an active girls' club, entertains soldiers every Monday night. The teachers of the city have organized into a club to plan parties for the men in service twice a month. Saturday is Navy Night when the Navy Mothers Club throws open the doors to V-12 and V-5 boys at the University of South Carolina.

The building has two floors and includes a kitchen. There is also an acre park with Dutch oven and picnic tables, outdoor dance floor, as well as playground equipment. This center, located on the crest of a hill, overlooks the city and its multicolored lights attract the servicemen from afar.

Old Howard, a Negro center, offers an auditorium, kitchen, reading room, Dutch oven and playground equipment to servicemen and civilians. Dances, games, parties and dinners are enjoyed here and various Negro clubs assist with the entertainment.

Heathwood, Melrose, Irwin, Sims and Shandon Parks have excellent playground equipment and cabins which can be reserved for parties and clubs. Brownie and Scout Troops are well organized at these parks. St. Anne's Mission is a Negro playground.

Preschools are held daily except Saturday and Sunday in eight parks. Here three to six-year-old children spend four happy hours and release their mothers for defense work and home duties.

Then there's the unique Elks Fraternal Center which displays a long flight of steps flanked by a white picket fence with amusing signs, such as: "Hi! Service Men, Come on Down," "Beat It, MP's," "KP Phooey," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," and "MI 30 Calibre Blonde, Recoil Operated."

In the summer, soldiers with their girls can be seen dancing on the patio, seated at the varicolored tables surrounding the patio, sipping soft drinks and chatting. In the winter, this same scene changes to a large open fire, around which couples sit eating popcorn, apples and peanuts, dancing intermittently. This is truly a year-round recreation center.

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A People's Chorus and Community Orchestra

Are you one of the people who have always wanted to sing or play a musical instrument? And has it been your experience that you just couldn't find a group where you could lose your shyness and self-consciousness? Don't be discouraged! More cities are taking steps all the time to provide for "musically-shy" folks. Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, is one of these cities.

LAST FALL Wilkes-Barre organized its city-wide People's Chorus and Community Orchestra. Patterned after the organization of the same name in New York City, it has set a number of objectives for itself:

To stimulate a desire for musical expression and to provide the opportunity for group as well as individual musical participation

To promote and assist in community programs for educational as well as recreational purposes

To assist in the development of an understanding and appreciation of the best music

To help worthy and ambitious music students

There are no voice tests, and any person is welcome who has the desire to sing and can attend regularly. Six months after its organization, the group contained thirty-two singers and twenty-eight instrumentalists. It is growing steadily, and each week there are new members. Many of the musicians in the orchestra are veteran players, but they are there not because they are good players but because music is their hobby.

The rehearsals are held every Monday evening in one of the high school music rooms under the leadership of Prof. C. F. Nagro, a teacher in the Department of Music of the city schools.

Professor Nagro has been a member of the Wilkes-Barre Music Department since 1930 and prior to that was a member of the faculty of Albright College. He holds the degree of Bachelor of Music from the American Conservatory of Music, Chicago, and is a Master of Science in Music Education from the University of Pennsylvania.

When the organization was being formed, naturally it was a small group, but regardless of its size, those who came always got a thrill from singing or playing because each member felt he was having a pleasurable experience. The orchestra plays for all rehearsals and this lends greatly to this experience.

What does the People's Chorus sing? This is a question often asked. The program is varied to meet the needs of the group; usually there are some folk songs, ballads, patriotic songs, opera selections, and popular numbers. At a recent Music Week Victory Sing the chorus gave a concertized version of part of the opera *Faust* by Gounod.

It may be of interest to others contemplating similar organizations to know that considerable material is available for vocal and instrumental ensembles. There are several concertized versions of the best-loved operas. In addition there are also the standard arrangements of well-known choruses all available with orchestral parts.

The People's Chorus and Orchestra is already accepted as a musical force in the community. It has taken the lead in several Victory Sings, has

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Recreation a Developing Profession

By ALLAN KRIM, Ed.M.
Recreation Department
Board of Education
Newark, New Jersey

PROFESSIONAL recognition to me appears to be indicated by the dignity and worth that the general public holds for a particular calling. Professional groups, like individuals, pass through definite periods of development. Medicine and law represent mature professions. Education, on the other hand, is relatively a new profession in the sense that its recognition by the general public and its meeting of standards which characterize a profession are of more recent date.

Now what of recreation—your particular calling and mine? What is its prestige? With what dignity and worth does the general public hold our profession? Or shall I ask if recreation is a profession? Although this question has been raised over and over again, there is still a lack of agreement as to the answer. Some unhesitatingly say "yes"; others answer "no"; while still others say "not yet, but it is becoming a profession."

This difference of opinion suggests three questions:

What are the characteristics of a profession?

To what extent does recreation possess the characteristics of a profession?

If recreation is not yet a profession, can it become a profession?

The following list of criteria distinguishes a profession from a trade or business:

1. A profession has a body of scientific knowledge and corresponding skill in practice.
2. The knowledge and skill can be acquired only by extended study and practice by persons who have the necessary native endowment.
3. The welfare of community, state, and nation depends upon services only by those who have this knowledge and skill.
4. The members, by virtue of special qualifications for public service, incur definite obligations to each other and to the public.

Now in order for us to determine to what extent recreation possesses the characteristics of a profession, eight questions are raised for consideration:

1. Is there a body of specialized technical knowledge pertaining to recreation?
2. Are high standards required for entrance to recreation?
3. Do recreation personnel engage in recreation as a life work?
4. Do recreation personnel remain in the same community for a fairly long period?
5. Does the public hold recreation in high esteem?
6. Do recreation workers have a feeling of group consciousness?
7. Do recreation workers have professional standards for the regulation of their group?
8. Do recreation workers place service above personal gains?

Is there a body of scientific knowledge to recreation?

Although the data is far from complete, I believe that we can agree that a considerable amount of knowledge pertaining to recreation is now available. We have a definite accumulation of knowledge which gives a real philosophy of recreation. We have seen evidences of the development of content and subject matter in the introduction of recreation as a college and university course of study. We have also witnessed an increased output of literature pertaining to recreation. There have also been evidences of recreational research and study in communities, all of which indicates a body of specialized knowledge.

Are high standards required for entrance to recreation?

Not only does a profession have a body of scientific knowledge, but it must have corresponding skill in practice. The knowledge and skill can be acquired only by extended study and practice by persons who have the necessary native endowment. It must be admitted that stand-

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Mr. Krim, in addition to his duties as a member of the staff of the Newark Recreation Department, serves as instructor in Recreation Administration at Panzer College, East Orange, New Jersey.

Both Mr. Krim and the National Recreation Association will welcome comments on the article. If you don't agree with any of the conclusions presented, don't hesitate to register your opinion!

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ards for entrance to recreation have been low in emerging. It is only since 1938 that the booklet on *Standards of Training, Experience and Compensation in Community Recreation Work* * was published.

The war, with its lack of manpower, is causing us to forget about standards and we tend to make the mistake of the past in permitting individuals with no training to enter the field. The teaching profession has also lowered its standards somewhat, but at least its certification set-up will prevent a good many from remaining unless they meet certification requirements. The obstructive influence of politicians, the small salaries with no pension, and the limited appreciation of the importance of trained personnel on the part of those responsible for budgeting are a few reasons for low standards.

Do recreation personnel engage in recreation as a life work?

Unfortunately, recreation is not considered as a life career by thousands of men and women who enter its ranks. The annual turnover, due to the fact that compensation is not commensurate with the training of these workers, and the fact that they can go into other fields of work, make recreation a stepping stone for better paid positions. The fact that so many of our community programs operate in certain seasons of the year handicaps us from getting people to engage in recreation as a life work.

Do recreation personnel remain in the same community for a fairly long period?

Recreation personnel remains comparatively a short time in a given community. This again is caused by the fact that as new and better paid positions open up, the trained recreation worker moves up. Only in the big cities, for the most part, do we see personnel remaining for any length of time.

Does the public hold recreation in high esteem?

Professions are recognized by the public as rendering a necessary social service and are held in high esteem. Public recognition, however, manifests itself in various ways. The public is somewhat confused as to what constitutes a recreation leader. This is due to the fact that so many have come into recreation with training in fields only partially, if at all, related to the broad field of rec-

Gedge Harmon

reation. Our seasonal programs still attract the transient play leader, the high school or college athlete who is looking for a summer's outing, or the school teacher who, because of financial stringencies, accepts an additional job.

Do recreation workers have a feeling of group consciousness?

This is manifesting itself slowly through recreation workers' organizations. The National Recreation Association, Society of Recreation Workers of America, the state associations, and the local associations all indicate a trend to group consciousness. However, even here we fall short, since comparatively few actually belong.

Do recreation workers have professional standards for regulating a group?

One of the characteristics of a profession is an attempt, on the part of the members, to establish standards to govern the relation of their group to the general public and to members of the profession. It was in 1938 or 1939 that the Society for Recreation Workers set up a credo for the recreation profession which dealt chiefly with the recreation worker in his relation to the general public.

Do recreation workers place service above personal gain?

Those of us who remain and who pursue recreation as a life work definitely place service above personal gain. Almost all of us are in this field

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* National Recreation Association. 25 cents.

Square Dancing During Intermissions

By G. V. McCAUSLAND
St. Joseph, Michigan

"WHAT CAN we do to entertain a larger number of the servicemen who come to the club for the dance?"

This was the question we asked ourselves after the first of our USO dances, when we discovered that only about a half of the soldiers and sailors present had taken part in social dancing. Some, to be sure, had played table tennis, stood around the piano, or visited with the hostesses, but a very large number had merely stood in the corners of the room watching the others.

Our second dance was to have music provided by a good military band. In talking to the leader of the band a day or so before the dance, we learned that at ten o'clock there would be a half hour intermission. That gave us our inspiration!

When ten o'clock arrived on the night of the dance, and the orchestra had left the hall, without any announcement the excellent piano player we had secured for the occasion started playing "Red River Valley" in square dance tempo. It worked out just as we had hoped it would when we planned it! Almost every man who had been sitting on the side lines or standing in the corner rushed on the floor and began doing his own version of the dance. Then the leader stopped the music for a brief pause and gave the following instructions:

1. Circles of four couples
   See that the lady is at the gent's right
   Circle to the left
   Circle to the right
   Forward and back to the center
   Forward and back once again
   (We will do that much to the music)

2. One circle (everybody—one circle)
   Lady at gent's right
   Drop hands
   Spread out
   All stand on right foot (left foot free)
   Dip up and down on right foot
   Dip on right foot and tap with left foot
   Now dip on right foot and swing left foot
   Now dip on right foot and turn yourself with the left
   (Now we will do that much to the music)

3. All the ladies on one side of the room
   Gents on the other side of the room
   (Music)
   Grand march
   Forward two
   First two to the right
   Second two to the left
   Forward four
   First four to the right
   Second four to the left
   Forward eight
   (When first eight come to the end of the room)
   Circle eight

4. We will practice the swing by ourselves again
   Now, gents, take your partner's right hand in your left hand, and put your right hand on her left hip, and the girl puts her left hand on the gent's shoulder
   You both stand on your right foot
   You place the outside of your right foot side by side and you use your right foot as a pivot as you paddle around to the left with your left foot
   As you swing you lean away from your partner
   (We will practice the swing with our partners)
   (Music)

5. Now you all join hands and you circle
   Circle left—then you circle to the right
   Now you forward and back to the center
   And you forward and back once again
   Now you all swing your gals in the valley
   Swing them 'round and around and around
   (Stop music)
   "Fine"

6. Now, gents, take your gal's right hand—lift it over her head and rest it on her right shoulder
   Take her left hand in your left hand
   And everyone walk around the circle once and stop at the place you started from
   (Music)
   All swing your partners
   And promenade once around
   (Stop music)

   "The first couple is the couple with their backs to the music—the next couple to the right is the second couple—the next couple to the right is the third couple—the next couple to the right is the fourth couple."

7. After the introduction—the first couple leads down the valley (to the couple on the right) and swings the opposite lady and then his own partner
   The first couple then leads on down the valley and does the same with the third and fourth couples
   Then everybody swings in the valley
   And promenade once around
   (Music—and the complete dance)

8. Oh, you all join hands and you circle
   Circle left—then you circle to the right
   Now you forward and back to the center
   And you forward and back once again
   Now you all swing your gals in the valley
   Swing 'em 'round and around and around

And now you take your partner
And you promenade one time around

Now the first couple leads down the valley
Circle left—then you circle to the right
(Four hands 'round with the second couple)
Now you swing the opposite lady
But don't forget your Red River gal (swing your own partner)

Now you lead right on and you circle
Circle left—then you circle to the right
Now you swing the opposite lady
But don't forget your Red River gal
(And so on until all have taken their turn)

The "Red River Valley" is a good dance to begin with, but any dance may be used. We didn't try to teach the left allemande or the grand right and left when we were working with a new group. Because the servicemen are not usually in one town long enough to attend the same club many times, we have done most of our square dancing without the left allemande and the grand right and left.

It has been our experience that it is much better to introduce the square dance at the intermission period by playing a square dance tune than by trying to get the dancers on the floor first and then playing the tune. Our plan at all intermissions is to have a square dance tune played without any announcement and then, when the group is on the floor, to give a few simple instructions. The "Red River Valley," as outlined, can be taught in fifteen minutes. This allows fifteen minutes either to do the dance again for practice, or to do some part of the dance which the players may not thoroughly understand.

Never try to put over square dancing on a group which has come to do social or ballroom dancing! This usually makes the guests feel they have been cheated out of some time which they have counted on for ballroom dancing. Men on leave have only a short time for recreation, and if they decide to spend the evening at a regular dance they do not want to use that time for complicated mixers or square dances. The introduction of square dancing at intermissions, however, cannot be objected to because nothing else is going on. The orchestra is out of the room, and the floor is clear. Those who have been dancing to the orchestra music may wish to rest or visit, but those who don't know how to do ballroom dancing may now have their turn. When it becomes known that square dances will be taught during intermissions, many men will take part in the evening fun who formerly spent their time standing on the side lines.

In some of the OCD training courses for hostesses, square dancing is being taught as a part of the regular course. Many girls have enjoyed these lessons even with no men present. One evening a group of forty-five nurses had a square dance, and since there were no men present the girls took turns in wearing strips of crepe paper to show they were taking the part of men in the dance. There is great advantage in the girls knowing square dancing and starting it, for then the men will join them. This is true, of course, of activities other than square dancing!

It is possible to use intermissions at a dance for adaptations of square dances, and it may be better in some cases not to give the figures any names at all. Many square dances introduced at intermissions make good mixers, among them the "Grape Vine Twist" and "Alabama Jubilee."

As soon as the orchestra leaves the room for intermission, have a square dance tune played on the piano. (Accordion or fiddle and piano are also good.)

Then the leader will say:

Circle all—or one large circle

Lady at gent's right

Break that circle with the lady in the lead single file—Indian style

Turn and swing her once in a while

(Gent turns and swings the lady behind him)

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The July issue of RECREATION carried an article by Laurence B. Cairns telling of the popularity of country dancing at USO clubs. In this issue Mr. McCausland, Executive Secretary, St. Joseph-Benton Harbor, Michigan, Community Chest, gives us a leaf from his experience in conducting square dancing at many clubs.

Mr. McCausland is a social worker by profession; but his hobby is square dancing, and he has given courses in square dance calling at Ohio State University.

TO PUT IT BRIEFLY

1. **Try introducing a square dance at intermission time.**
2. **Let the music announce what is going to take place.**
3. **Don't try to force anyone to take part.**
4. **Teach only very little the first time.**
5. **See that all have a good time even if they do not do the dance exactly right.**
6. **And remember the old standard principle: "Stop while they're asking for more."**

Sport Makes Good Flying Men

By Group Captain C. D. TOMALIN

Captain Tomalin, who is champion English swimmer, has made a fine fighting record in this war and holds the Air Force Cross

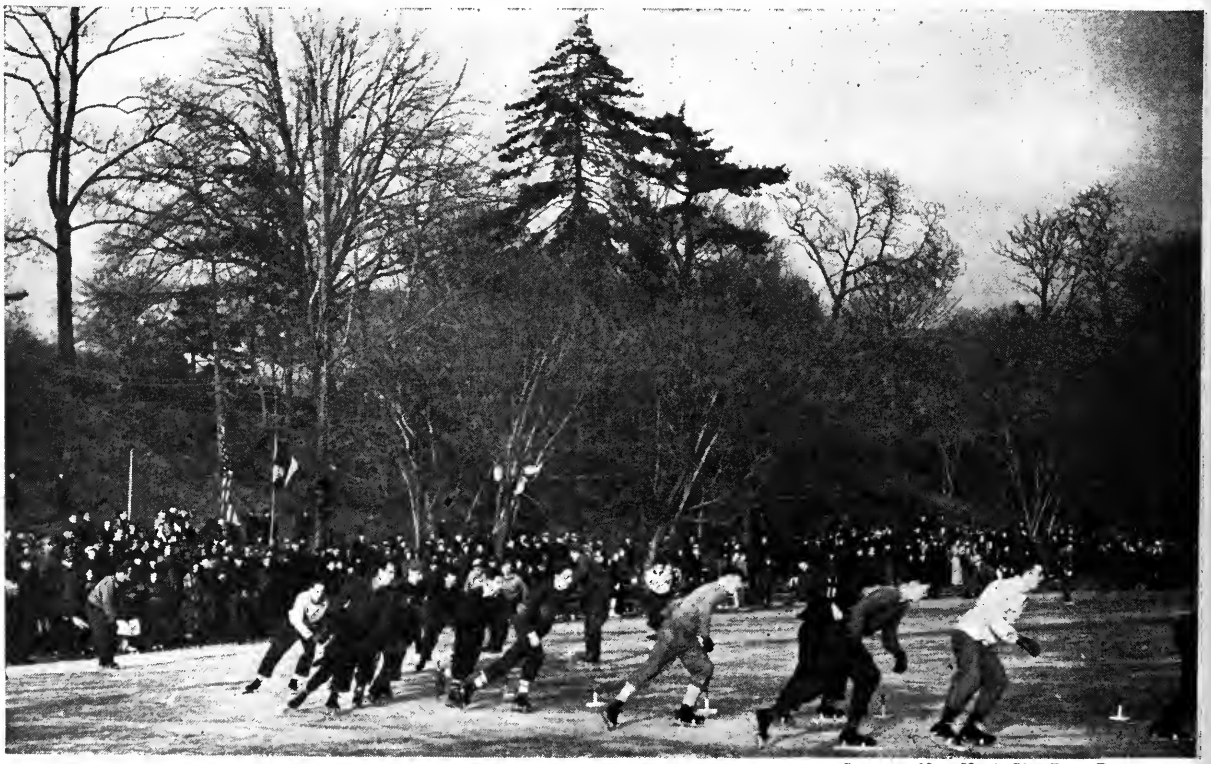
ATHLETES who have devoted themselves to swimming are lucky today. I realize that from my own wartime experience.

In many sports—notably boxing and wrestling—the accent is on the individual. The individual is trained to think of his own condition, his own skill, his own reactions and only incidentally of his opponent, so that he will properly appreciate the standard of preparation necessary for himself. But in most of the amateur clubs, and particularly in Britain's amateur swimming clubs such as mine, the membership includes every type of man and woman. Some of my fellow members perform the humblest tasks for a living. Others are prominent in the professions. These differences disappear when we are in our swimming pool stripped for action, for the success of the club, as a club, depends utterly on the team spirit of cooperation. The only criterion is then: How will it help the club? Not how will it help me?

I have known many instances of members, who were on the very top in the athletic sense, take time off their own training to give advice and training to younger members who showed promise. And I have known them to persist enthusiastically in this training right up to and beyond the day when the pupil defeated his teacher.

It is precisely the same in the Royal Air Force. Time after time I have seen a first class pilot who has completed a long tour of operational duty take up instructional work with as much enthusiasm as he had given formerly to his own operations. Why? Because he had found a pupil with the keenness and the promise that matched that which he himself had possessed. Into the training of that pupil the veteran pilot will put all his knowledge

Skating, as well as swimming, is a sport which makes a contribution to the efficiency of fighting men



Courtesy New York City Park Department

and spirit, with the result that the day comes when the pupil is a better fighting man than his teacher and actually takes his place in operations. This is the spirit of cooperation of the amateur sports club translated into fighting terms.

There is also the element of physical fitness. As a diver I have always had to keep in excellent condition, and now that I am on flying operations my past training stands me in good stead. This business of keeping in good physical shape is so automatic that I find it no great strain to come straight from an operational trip and go directly to the nearest swimming pool and give exhibitions of diving. In fact, the one physical strain offsets the other.

There must be something in these theories, since for two months running my squadron were top scorers in RAF Fighter Command for shooting down German aircraft over their own bases. And that, of course, is the main preoccupation nowadays. My own sporting background has, I know, made a valuable contribution to my own part.

Another article dealing with the importance of athletics and sports in developing physical fitness in fighting men appeared in the February 1944 issue of *Think* magazine under the title, "Sports and Combat Training." The article, reprinted by permission, follows:

"In every branch of the armed forces athletics has become an indispensable part of training for combat duty. In no branch of the service is this more evident than in the Pre-Flight Division of the Navy. Athletics here is on a par with physics and mathematics. Every cadet is required to participate in every sport, whether it be what is generally regarded as a major sport, such as football, baseball or track, or one or another of the games of the school boy variety, such as Follow the Leader.

"Manuals have been prepared so that cadets may know what they are in for. The latest is called *Mass Exercise,* which is a far cry from the tedium associated with squads rhythmically going through calisthenics. In every case great emphasis is placed on the competitive spirit, and all the events wind up with a championship series.

"There is much to be said for sports. When you go to bat against the opposing pitcher, and you take a deep lusty swing at the ball, and you hear the crack of the bat meeting the ball, and you see the ball sailing far over the center field fence, this is a moment of tangible pleasure. . . . When your ball is twenty feet from the cup, and the green is rough, so that the ball must take three deliberate hops before it reaches the cup, what is your state of beatitude as you watch the ball drop into the cup! These are pleasures to be derived only from sports. There is a great deal to be said for sports."—From circular issued by *The Readers Club,* New York City.

"Six-ball soccer, in which there may be as many as one hundred players on a side, is an excellent example of the evident intention to instil fun and rough-and-tumble rivalry into a game which, in a way, simulates conditions of actual warfare.

"The game creates plenty of excitement. Six balls are put simultaneously into play, with six referees on hand to call the three varieties of fouls, among them 'rough or slugging play,' which are recognized. One can readily imagine the stout courage generated when two hundred healthy young 'animals' are in 'full cry.' As soon as one ball is knocked for a goal, the score is recorded and that ball is then taken out of play for the remainder of the game. Finally there is but one ball left, and still there are two hundred men in pursuit of it. When it is at length put through for a goal, the triumph to these lusty young men getting ready for war may call up pictures of them successfully storming a beach.

"Then there are relay races in which the number of participants may be unlimited. And when the first man on a relay team has run his race, he goes to the end of the line of his team prepared to start all over again when his next turn comes. This race, in so far as the rules are concerned, may keep on from 'dawn till dewy eve.' In much the same category is tug of war, with unlimited numbers on both sides. Mass volley ball may have as many as seventy-two on each side. Speedball Junior stipulates that the contestants shall kick a soccer ball with their feet while lying on their backs, and shall move along the ground in crab fashion.

"Still other contests are three-legged relays, wheelbarrow relays, horse and ride relays, and good old Prisoners' Base adapted to the principle of warfare, which is that prisoners shall at all times be guarded.

"But all is not mass exercise. There are partner competitions such as Indian wrestling, hand wrestling, and elbow tug of war. Various self-testing devices also give every young man 'glorying in his strength' the opportunity to ascertain just how good he actually is.

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A Workshop for Boys

Does your Recreation Department provide boys of all ages in your community from 8 to 80—but particularly from 8 to 12—the fun of a workshop?

If location, equipment, or leadership is holding you back, the story of the workshop in Waterloo, Iowa, may offer inspiration and practical help.

THE WORKSHOP is one of the most popular of the many activities offered at Waterloo's new Washington Community Recreation Center which, until Thanksgiving of last year, was an old boarded-up school building.

On numerous afternoons when the shop is a beehive of thirty-five boys and two or three girls all in the process of creating something, with at least eleven boys crowded four and five deep around the sander, there might be some leaders who would wonder about professional techniques! If, however, these people could pay a personal visit to the Waterloo workshop; if they could see for themselves the electric project and demonstration board worked out by the maintenance man of the Recreation Department turned workshop instructor; if they would take a good look at some of the better things produced; and, above all, if they could see the boys and girls themselves, they would be inclined to agree with what Angelo Patri said back in 1933.

> Said Mr. Patri: "When the machines carried the work of home into the shops and laboratories, home was emptied of its vitality. It is always so. When an institution loses the stimulus of creative work, it loses meaning. Unless creative work becomes part and parcel of the life of the school, it cannot hope to prepare children for the era of machine-made service. So I say the next generation must be trained upon a new principle, one founded on the creative impulse of humanity.
>
> ". . . Most of us are ordinary people. No marked gifts distinguish us from the great group of people with whom we work and play. But there is always something that we can enjoy more than anything else, something that brings the light of joy and interest in our eyes, quickens our movements, illumines our spirit. Well, it is for the ordinary person that I crave a training for leisure, for culture, for creative expression. The genius has the power to lift himself above the routine of daily living. We don't have to worry about his leisure time. Nature takes care of that. But the ordinary person must be trained so that he develops a hobby, an avocation, something he can turn to in his leisure time."

Angelo Patri would be interested in Waterloo's workshop.

On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons the workshop is open to fifth and sixth grade boys, and two or three girls who refuse to be "frozen" out. There is always a variety of activity. The machine in the corner which is always as completely surrounded as Popeye on a personal appearance tour, is the sander. It is the one piece of power equipment which the boys are allowed to use. It is never idle for a moment.

"George, will you bore this for me?" a young worker sings out from a corner of the room.

The instructor looks up from the band saw where he is working on a pile of embryo tommy guns. He is a member of the National Guard and in midwinter arranged for a special inspection of G.I. Army equipment at the Armory. Forty boys from the recreation center marched there in a body one Saturday morning. The high spot of the visit was taking a paper pattern of the latest G.I. tommy gun.

Much of the equipment of the workshop was hunted out and tracked down by the maintenance man instructor and his staff. A virtually brand-new band saw was located at a commercial photographer's. A $45 shaper was secured for a mere $15. All of the benches for the workshop were built by the maintenance department.

"A workshop has its greatest value at a time like the present, and it would be a contribution to morale and mental balance if every Army and Navy post, as well as every school and college, provided tools and materials to gratify the desire to work with one's hands." — From the Director, Student Workshop, Dartmouth College.

The shop equipment includes: 1 power sander, 1 twelve-inch band saw, 1 ten-inch circle saw, 1 six-inch joiner, 1 shaper. There are 6 band saws, 1 lathe, 10 woodvises, 20 coping saws, and 4 benches. Soon to be added are a drill press, jig saw and vise, a

new lathe, and portable electric drill. The cost of the equipment to date is $1,600.

One of the most unique pieces at the workshop is the electric demonstration board mentioned previously. It is hung at one end of the shop, as a blackboard would be. On it are worked out thirty-six different examples of simple electrical wiring. The board furnishes the basis for a course of six individual projects for seventh and eighth grade boys. The board and individual projects are all the invention of the recreation leader, and the boys are very proud of their equipment.

The shop holds interest for all age groups. Besides the three days of woodworking for the fifth and sixth grade boys, and the two days of electric projects for the seventh and eighth graders, older boys and girls use the shop two evenings a week. Fifth and sixth graders add up to 110. The average daily attendance has had to be limited to twenty and thirty. Even with this restriction, the boys concoct ingenious methods for getting in extra hours. To date, all working material (wood of all kinds) has been furnished without any charge.

The shop is in a neighborhood of both white and colored families and there are always three or four colored boys in the shop. When a visitor asked the recreation leader which of the woodworking boys was inclined to turn in the best work, a twelve-year-old redhead answered for the director. Swinging his arm around the shoulders of a shyly smiling colored lad, the white boy said, "Lee, here, can sure make swell things, can't he, George?" Later the visitor discovered from the recreation leader who has the pottery group that it is Lee's work which is also outstanding in that department.

The workshop is remarkable for its lack of conversation. The woodworkers are too interested to talk much. Boys will be boys, however, and occasionally one of the crowd loudly threatens everyone in his corner of the room if the saw he is using disappears while he procures some needed tool from the other side of the room.

Anything but a down-to-earth approach gets a cold shoulder. When one curly-head working on a rabbit toy was asked if he ever made anything for his little brother, another aggressive looking curly-headed lad from the opposite work bench boomed, "I'm his little brother."

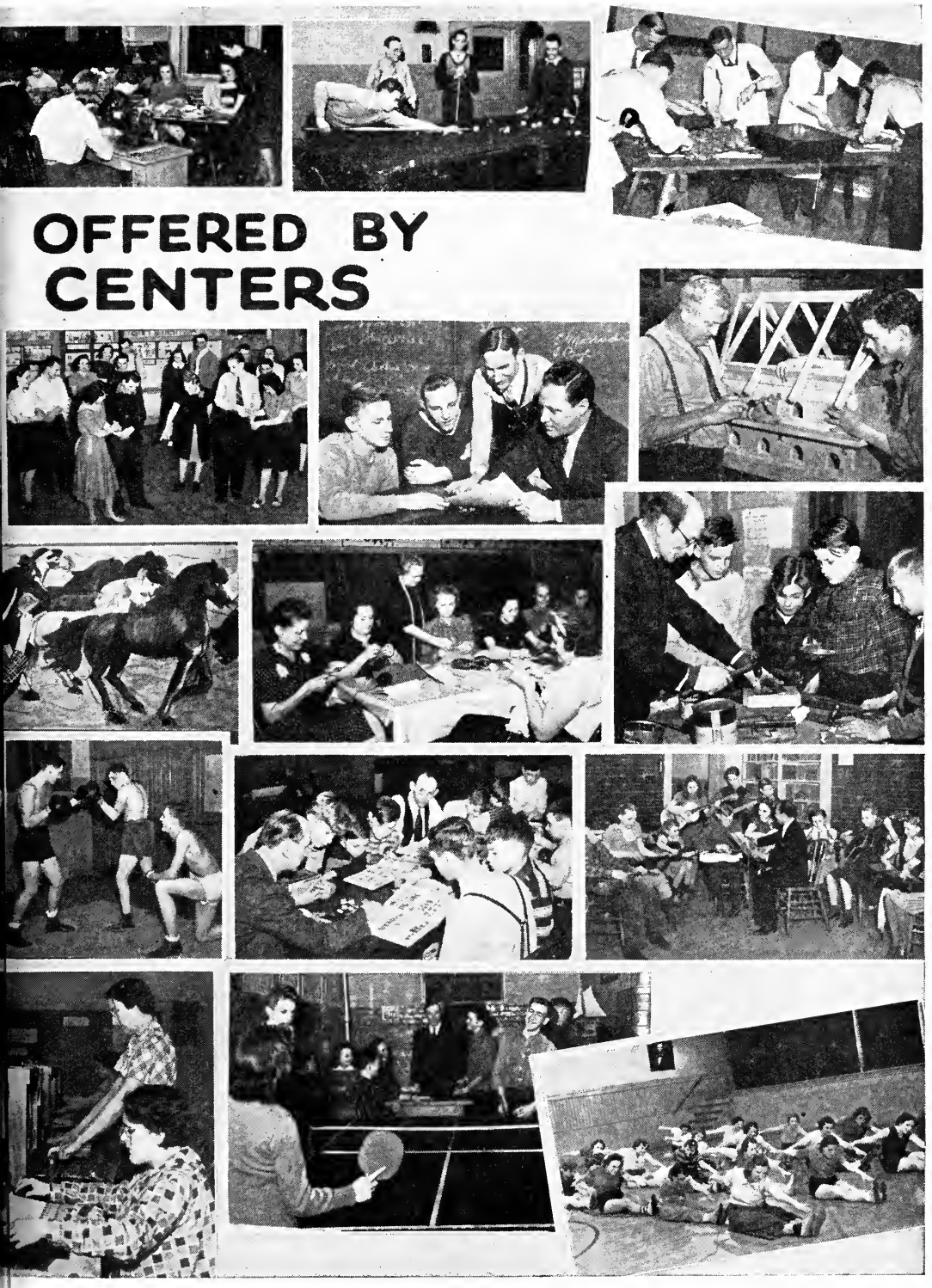
As Angelo Patri pointed out in speaking of leisure: "How can we profit by the experience of this day of trouble and emerge from a civilization of servitude into one that sheds new light on the meaning of life? Children must be taught to use their leisure time aright. No human being can remain idle for any length of time without protest. The spirit of man must have food. That food is found in something one likes to do. In idleness lies danger."

NOTE: Other of the interesting activities of the recreation program in Waterloo were described in the July 1944 issue of RECREATION under the title, "Shortages No Waterloo for Waterloo!"

Everything from tommy guns to toys for their younger brothers and sisters is made by Waterloo boys in the workshop

"STUDY, PLAY, CREATE—make your leisure time show a profit. Fill it with activities that will bring you happiness, health, knowledge."

This is the invitation that the Milwaukee Department of Municipal Recreation broadcasts to Milwaukee citizens young and old, offering them a varied and rich program of activities. From its very beginning the Department followed the policy that recreation is not merely something which concerns children's play but is a matter of vital importance in the life of every person from childhood through old age. Nor does recreation consist solely of sports, games, and physical activities. While these are vital to an individual, and provision for them is a large part of the responsibility of a recreation department, there are many other valuable



Courtesy Annual Convention Publication 1943, Wisconsin State Federation of Labor

interests which should function in the leisure hours of an individual and of a community.

The original law under which Milwaukee's Recreation Department was created limited the special tax through which funds were secured to .2 mill. In 1918 and again in 1937, the ever-growing interest and need prompted citizens, through referendum, to appeal for increases in the recreation tax limitation, which was raised from .2 to .4 mill, and from .4 to .8 mill. Ever alive to the value of playgrounds and social centers to their families and to the community, the labor organizations fought valiantly for each referendum and exerted a potent influence on the elections.

At present the Department operates sixty-nine

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How Recreation Came to Norway, Maine

The story of a girl, the graduation present she requested, a town, and the National Recreation Association

WHILE Margaret Williston was a student in Boston University she did her practice work in the office of Boston Community Service. There on the library table she picked up RECREATION Magazine and bulletins sent by the National Recreation Association. These periodicals became "Number One" on her reading parade each month. Upon her graduation from Boston University, Margaret Williston was asked by her family what her choice of a graduation present was. She asked for and received a membership in the National Recreation Association, which was to bring her wherever she was a copy of RECREATION and the NRA bulletins. Margaret Williston made recreation a part of her own life and decided that no matter where she was assigned, others, too, would have recreation. Margaret Williston was offered and accepted a job in the Child Welfare Department in the state of Maine and her assignment was Norway, a community of about 3,600 people.

Now she had the town where recreation was needed, but she did not have all the information required to bring recreation to Norway immediately! The state of Maine appointed her as a delegate to the National Social Work Conference held in New Orleans in 1942. The National Recreation Association had consultation service at that conference. Margaret Williston came daily to the National Recreation Association desk to look over the literature and ask questions. She went back to Norway, Maine, and got started! Each time a particular problem presented itself, Margaret Williston wrote to the National Recreation Association for counsel.

In 1943 Norway, Maine, had a Recreation Council and a volunteer leader, Margaret Williston, who in her own words says, "I will settle for nothing less than year-round recreation." She has the full support of the community. There were many important in-between steps too numerous to mention, but a few are listed because they show that it can be done.

In getting community interest, Margaret Williston learned that the Department of Welfare was paying $1,100 rent for the building in which she had her office. This building was formerly the opera house and only two rooms were being used. She inquired of the Girl Scout leader and the various community organizations where their meetings were held and when she discovered that they were having difficulty in finding suitable meeting places, she told them about the empty rooms in the opera house and encouraged them to ask for permission to use these rooms. In a short time not only were the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts meeting in the building, but the community orchestra and glee clubs were holding their rehearsals there. This is really the start of the Recreation Center.

In looking around for volunteer leadership she discovered by talking to people in the town that the minister in one of the churches had had training in the National Recreation Association Rural Institute, and that he in turn could be helpful in training other leaders.

One of the things that helped Margaret Williston most was the fact that she could point to a tavern on the main street in Norway which was the only place in town that offered anything of interest to the young people — the lights were bright; the juke box gave forth; there was a place to dance and boy could meet girl, not always under the most favorable conditions.

Now Margaret Williston's ambition is to tell the whole state of Maine about the National Recreation Association and about the need for recreation in the villages. She came to headquarters' office to ask permission to set up an exhibit at the forthcoming Social Work Conference for the state of Maine, which will show the

(Continued on page 329)

It was far from an expensive graduation present she asked for—nothing more than a membership in the National Recreation Association; but with the year's subscription to RECREATION and the bulletins which the membership brought her, plus, of course, her own resourcefulness and will to serve, a town in Maine is enjoying recreation, and the entire State bids fair to receive dividends from that $5.00 investment!

Have you ever thought what *you* might be able to accomplish by a similar investment in the National Recreation Association?

In Defense of Hobbies—

Especially Stamp Collecting

Gedge Harmon

By H. SANGUINETTI

WHENEVER I go to a museum or exhibition of any kind, I always come away with a feeling of relief that I collect stamps instead of china or stones. Imagine the difficulty of carrying home a package of a thousand plates of Dresden china or of finding a place for them when you get them there! Yet it is not unusual for me to carry home in my coat pocket an envelope containing a thousand stamps. One of the reasons for the popularity of stamp collecting may be the very ease with which stamps may be carried about and the small space a large collection occupies. It does not clutter up the house, and it is easier to "sneak in" your collection than it would be if you collected bulky articles. That is a point to consider when you have spent more money than you should on some particularly choice collector's item!

Collecting is one of the fundamental urges of man, even though some members of your family may regard it as a childish diversion or an indication that you are not quite bright—"a grown-up man spending his evenings with tiny scraps of paper!" The argument that great statesmen and business leaders turn to collecting antiques, books, china, coins, or stamps as a means of relaxation falls on deaf ears.

Perhaps the answer may be found in something a niece of mine said when she came into my study to find me working on my stamp collection: "I have no one to play with, but if you are playing with your toys I'll bring mine along and we'll play together."

That four year old came very close to the truth. The purpose of a hobby is to give us pleasure and relaxation. Take vacations, for instance. The conventional and obvious thing to do on a vacation is to send post cards to friends and relatives at home. Sometimes it is best not to do the obvious and conventional. There are many people who collect post cards, but they are the ones with friends who visit strange places.

A vacation is really the time to do your collecting or treasure hunting, as a friend calls it. Some people have the idea that the purpose of a vacation is to go places and do things which they really don't want to do but which are expected of them. These timid souls among collectors find it easier to follow the crowd to a resort than to explain to friends that they get more fun out of staying home, poking through second-hand stores or visiting interesting old places in search of whatever useless articles they like to collect! Now that it is patriotic to stay at home, we collectors don't have so much alibiing to do!

There are signs, however, of a more tolerant attitude, and the day may yet come when we collectors won't have to sneak our latest finds into the house to avoid the third degree as to what we've been doing and how much money we spent on "stuff that only clutters up the house." In fact, stamp collecting seems to have passed from the undercover stage to respectability. Perhaps the ease with which governments have found they can extract revenue by issuing new postage stamps honoring famous men or causes has something to do with it. An organized minority of ten million people—the number of stamp collectors the post office estimates for this country—can't be laughed off as being "nuts"! Furthermore, the Post Office Department encourages stamp collecting since it brings in over $1,000,000 a year from the sale of stamps which will never do postage duty since they'll all be tucked away in stamp collections.

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Not Too Old to Enjoy Life

By JEANNE H. BARNES

Miss Barnes, a field worker for the Council of Social Agencies of Philadelphia, presented this address at a meeting of the Council held last February. She was formerly a member of the staff of the National Recreation Association and worked on problems of recreation in institutions.

THE PROBLEMS of the aged or "older people," as most of us prefer to call them, are not only the concern of those working in institutions or serving with the Department of Public Assistance. Leaders in recreation and education, as well as other fields of social endeavor, must be concerned more and more. Certainly when we realize that while the Philadelphia population increased only one per cent in the last decade the number of persons above sixty-five increased thirty-eight per cent, and that seven per cent of the Philadelphia population is over sixty-five years of age (it is estimated that by 1980 it will be eleven per cent), we know that the number is too large to be disregarded.

Quite naturally agencies have first looked after physical needs but have been led to believe that the emotional life of the individual is as important as physical comfort and security, and that the "universal wishes" for security, recognition, response, and new experience are present at any age.

Increasingly there is an interest in old people as *individuals,* and a realization that as long as there is life a person is a complete individual, retaining all his feelings and faculties to a varying degree.

One writer has said that the following things combine to make old people happy: (1) Living arrangements; (2) good health; (3) occupation; (4) social life; (5) acquaintance with young people. These five factors seem to be paramount regardless of whether the old person is married, widowed, sees his children or not.

Now let's review some general principles which should be considered in regard to old people:

Older people must be allowed to proceed at their own pace and with their own program, not a program imposed on them. They look backward instead of ahead, and it is questionable just how much we can change that. We can make them interested in the present and, perhaps, the *immediate* future.

We should not be surprised if their first reaction is "No" when a new and different thing is proposed. This is the easiest reaction because it involves the least effort. It may take some time for our suggestion to be accepted (let alone followed), and an older person may add his own changes, but that in itself denotes interest and mental activity. While changes are good for variety's sake, sudden ones, and "surprises," can sometimes be upsetting to certain old people.

Some have said the older a person gets, the younger his interests are. Not that he wants to be treated as a child, but the simpler and less complicated things appeal.

We may expect old people to want to be alone some of the time. This is natural because they enjoy reviewing past years. However, the older person needs and wants social contacts as much as in any other period of life, but finds them more difficult to achieve and maintain because friends have passed on and family and young people pass by. Unhappiness, withdrawal, neurotic symptoms with actual physical distress, day dreaming, which develops into suspicion, evasion of reality, and diminishing mental capacity can often be traced to isolation or solitary confinement. Generally speaking, the older women do not want to be separated from younger ones, while this is not so vital a point with the men.

We find that men are more adept at playing games and finding things to fill their leisure (smoking, checkers, horseshoes, watching excavations, sitting around the store or square, politics). Women have spent their young years being housewives and mothers, with their major handwork sewing. If they can no longer see and have no opportunity to cook, they are at quite a loss. No doubt the universal interest in hobbies and greater scope of professional activities for women will change this picture in another generation.

Activities should never be abruptly stopped but should be changed to altered capacities of aging people. As long as the individual is alive he needs, in addition to food and love, the opportunity to function and be effective. To be "needed" is what is important!

Recreation in Institutions

In the suggestions which follow, we have purposely by-passed the movies, entertainments, visiting groups, and other program features which are common to most institutions, and have thought in terms of the unusual thing or the very simple activity that should brighten long hours.

Surroundings. "Hominess," as well as comfort, must be present in the surroundings. There should be plenty of shade and plenty of places to sit down comfortably. Rocking chairs, pianos, even canaries, and special touches which were a part of the furnishings in a former generation (such as gay plates on a wall molding) all add up to this hominess. Pictures of "kin folk" in individual rooms also help.

There should also be color created by flowering plants, books, colorful draperies, and rugs. Certainly holiday decorations should be brought in at the appropriate times. While old people do not always relish drastic changes in the placement of furnishings, holiday decorations do add variety and offer a certain gaiety and stimulation to a place where the "scenery" does not change.

Facilities. Facilities should include: A community garden or individual gardens, flower or vegetable (herb gardens are the latest "fad"); perhaps, a terrarium or dish garden for those who cannot get outside.

A "tinker shop" for men, and a small kitchen for women to use on occasion.

Supplies. Supplies have some "musts," too, such as: Radio, piano, or even a player piano for those who cannot play but like to pump the rolls. Victrolas have come into their own again. "Talking books," which can be borrowed from libraries, can be used if a victrola is available.

A gaily painted book cart on which are books, magazines, and perhaps, supplies for quiet games for those who do not leave their own rooms and who would much rather make their own selections than have a friend do it.

Home town papers and pictorial magazines, if possible.

In addition to the usual checkers and chess, dominoes, lotto, parchesi, monopoly, cribbage, peggity, rook, anagrams, pick-up sticks, and lexicon. (Bringing these to the attention of the old folks might revive interest in games that they have almost forgotten and, therefore, have not thought to request.)

The Program. Program hints gleaned from everywhere include:

Celebrations for holidays.

Individual birthday remembrances of some sort, if only a personal greeting card at the breakfast plate (one Home has this and includes a brand-new dollar bill).

Some small surprises, such as tea and cookies in the middle of the afternoon, or a special musical program or an unexpected visitor.

A community project that not only offers something to do but can also inspire community spirit, such as making a quilt for the Red Cross; painting toys or making doll clothes for needy children; helping children's groups make their costumes;

Checker enthusiasts at the Men's Recreation Club, The Lighthouse, Philadelphia

compiling scrap-books for other institutions. Agencies like the British War Relief offer many suggestions, many of which do not require good eyesight or sewing ability.

A half hour of music after supper. This might include singing, if it develops spontaneously. (Having song books easily available aids in this.)

Particularly those entertainments in which children perform; also those in which the old people themselves can take part, such as group singing and reciting scripture.

A "progressive party" to introduce the card and table games mentioned above.

A close association and service with children's groups, such as the Girl Scouts. (One group planned to read aloud to the old ladies in exchange for help with making costumes. Then the children gave their "dress rehearsal" at the Home before performing at their downtown rally.)

Auto rides, particularly when the fall foliage is at its height and when the spring flowers are in bloom, or at Christmas when the outdoor decorations in the business and residential sections are so delightful.

Book reviews (which may be simply storytelling but never called such).

Exhibits borrowed from downtown stores, public libraries, museums, or clubs for the institution's residents to enjoy (historical relics, antiques, dolls from various countries).

An occasional buffet supper or tea to change the routine. (A "hike" to a near-by place with a picnic supper is a welcome change at one institution.)

Craft classes and exhibits of work done.

Permission to invite visitors for tea or supper, at least once a month.

A suggestion box in which residents can place their suggestions for recreation ideas.

A committee on recreation made up of board members and residents.

Let me grow lovely, growing old, as many fine things do;
Laces and ivory and gold and silks need not be new.
And there is healing in old trees; old streets a glamour hold.
Why may not I, as well as these, grow lovely, growing old?

—Karle Wilson Baker

Recreation "at Home"

Now for those people who live alone, or even with families, but still feel so "alone"—what can we plan for them?

Surroundings. We must be just as considerate of their surroundings when it comes to growing things, pictures of kin folk, color, comfort, and convenience.

Supplies and Facilities. Many of the games mentioned previously should be considered because they call for two or four players. Added to them should be puzzles of the crossword and jigsaw variety; also many word puzzles which can be found in Sunday papers, magazines, and similar sources.

Radio and victrolas bring much comfort. In fact, listening to the radio and recordings; participating in radio and magazine contests; sending for "Mother Barber's Scrap-book with one box top of Tenderleaf Tea," and reading home town newspapers can be important parts of the solitary person's leisure.

Program Suggestions. These may include: Simple "out-of-the-house" excursions, particularly trolley car rides.

Trips to the museum, public library, historical societies, fashion shows, concerts, and cooking demonstrations, which never lose their fascination, regardless of age.

The special advantages of public institutions, that is, the music room at the Public Library where one can borrow sheet music and play it on the pianos which are available, or do the same with victrola records and players.

Hobbies which include not only crafts and radio contests but collections, many of which can be carried on by mail; tracing genealogy; weather; photography; and, of course, correspondence with those in service.

By all means, community service, even if they are shut-ins; making scrap-books; preparing greeting cards; repairing toys; mounting pictures; war relief activities, which may include cutting patterns and assembling buttons, as well as sewing.

Membership in clubs, particularly those for older people.

Participation in book exchanges, city-wide checker tournaments, district horseshoe matches, and similar events.

Special Projects

Here are some special projects which have been attempted throughout the country by institutions for the aged, the Department of Public Assistance, and certain neighborhood centers:

Hobby shows, or better yet, "treasure shows,"

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"Trial by Youth"

By DAVID WEISS
Jewish Young Men's and Women's Association
Rochester, New York

A community focuses interest on its juvenile delinquency problem through the "Mock Trial" method

LAST DECEMBER our community suddenly became excited by the sensational pronouncement in the press by a well-known attorney that a curfew was the only solution to the problem of youth. Letters for and against curfew flowed in profusion to the editors of our local papers. Allusions to youth were made in scareheads. Overnight it seemed as though youth had become a local and national menace!

Residents of the community were galvanized. Staff discussion in our agency considered the problem in two ways. On one hand, misgivings were expressed as to whether anything special should be done at this time other than strengthening the regular recreation and social program. There was concern lest any special action would only provoke further confusion or be misrepresented as a sign of anxiety to cover delinquent members. The other point of view was that the agency would have to risk such a misinterpretation. To do nothing would essentially be a denial of its fundamental obligation to youth, as well as its own membership and the community.

As a result, the agency decided to follow through the suggestion that a "mock trial" be held. Combined thinking resulted in the title of "Trial by Youth" which deliberately guarded against an interpretation of the prepositions "of" or "for." In order to afford a comprehensive analysis of the problem, the charge was framed as follows:

"'John and Mary Youth' were charged with inability to conduct themselves as responsible members of the community." From this point on, the planning and operating of the project became the joint responsibility of a special steering committee composed of nine youths and eight adults. This committee had two major responsibilities — to collect resources and prepare publicity.

In the meantime, in the Congress and Club meetings of the house groups and the Youth Council with which the agency has extension contact, a good deal of discussion was taking place about the curfew. There was great indignation and considerable fear and anxiety. There was the feeling that perhaps the curfew was the panacea, but "not for me"; the "other side of the tracks" was where it was needed.

In the midst of this anxiety and feeling, reflecting the attitudes in the community, the trial was announced for a month later. (Simultaneously and significantly the local Chamber of Commerce convened a meeting of youth and organized them into a Congress of Youth on Delinquency, as a self-controlling mechanism.)

The response to the trial was enthusiastic, especially by those who felt in some way maligned, and there was eagerness to put it on at once. Many of us also felt that it had to be staged quickly for fear the subject

Youth seems to be "on trial" in many cities these days. But does anyone doubt what the final verdict will be?

Courtesy York, Pa., Pennsylvania Dutch Canteen

was topical and might soon be played out. However, in recognition of the fact that the trial was essentially a youth project, a minimum of a month's preparation was held to. It is recognized that the values of such an experience might have been much greater had not the elements of time and topical concern been present.

Organizing the Project

Two practicing attorneys volunteered to work with the young people who came forward to play the parts of attorneys for the defense and the prosecution. A former City Court judge agreed to advise his youthful counterpart. The Court Clerk visited an actual courtroom to observe the way in which this real functionary operated. In order to expedite the activity of the two legal panels a special device was used. The "witnesses," adults professionally concerned about youth, were asked to prepare an outline of their testimony in advance. This served as a basis for each panel to organize the content for the trial.

The activity of the youth personnel who took part in the trial was the highlight of the entire project. The panels met regularly each week with their adult advisers. In many cases they visited each of the witnesses to discuss the testimony in advance. Publications from the Children's Bureau, the National Recreation Association, and other sources of information on the subject were secured. Two sets of alternate suggestions were prepared at the outset as a basis for analysis of the subject. For example, the prosecution was asked to survey the facts of youth's misbehavior; its failure to share in the war effort in contrast to Allied youth; its inattention to studies; neglect of the Church and the home; the "good time" attitude and the exploitation of their elders' concentration on the war. In short, could they prove that youth was shiftless and aimless and that we could afford such a state.

The defense was asked to view the sources of the charge. Has youth a fair chance? Have its needs been understood and met? What effect has the war had on the attitude of the community and parents toward children? What actually was youth's contribution in the armed forces, and industry, and civilian war services?

Two young people undertook the onerous roles of "Mary and John Youth." With a minimum of aid from the staff they prepared their defense. Their sincerity and simplicity impressed all who heard them at the trial.

During the month of preparation, regular publicity was sent to the local press and other outlets. A good relationship resulted with the newspapers through personal contact. Their report of the trial could serve as an excellent review of the proceedings. For the membership and youth at large an attractive "subpoena" was stencilled. The witnesses who participated included a police safety officer, a psychiatrist, a probation officer, the guidance director of the Board of Education, a Y.M.C.A. executive, a Presbyterian minister, the Junior Red Cross director, a U.S.E.S. worker, and a family case worker.

Because of limitation of time it was decided that the jury would be drawn from the audience, except that various youth agencies and groups were asked to recommend in advance the names of young people who would be interested. Furthermore, several hundred ballots were prepared to permit audience participation in the form of voting on the verdict and making specific recommendations.

The trial took place on February 22nd during a bitter sleet storm. Yet over 400 people attended, mostly adolescents who were members of house clubs, Youth Council, and the Youth Congress.

Let us quote in part from the newspaper writeup:

> "John and Mary Youth were freed last night from charges of 'inability to conduct themselves as responsible members of society.'
>
> "They were acquitted by a jury of their peers that weighed the evidence of their elders in a 'court' session that filled the 500 seats in the J.Y.M.-W.A. auditorium. The trial was sponsored by the JY youth activities committee.
>
> "The trial developed with singular unanimity between the witnesses for the defense and for the prosecution, whose testimony hit one ever-recurring note: That youths are the reflection of the adults.
>
> "Grown-ups who chisel on ration coupons, live by 'topsy turvy' social standards, precipitate a world chaos and generally set bad examples should, as an attorney for the defense contended in summation, be 'surprised' at the ability youth has shown to cope with the strains of wartime.
>
> "Ten attorneys, all youths, comprised the eloquent legal array before the bench of youthful 'Judge' James Raz, while those called to the witness stand represented social, educational, enforcement, religious and employment agencies."

The testimony turned out to be somewhat repetitive. However, only one case of stage fright occurred. Most of the youngsters had only one "dress rehearsal" before the trial was held for the purpose of orienting themselves to the courtroom procedure. Discussion at the trial, therefore, was extemporaneous and many instances of spontan-

eous import occurred. A great deal of poise and quick thinking was shown by the youngsters throughout in the way they conducted themselves.

Three hundred ballots were cast by the audience. A later analysis of the votes showed 11.6 per cent were for the verdict of guilty; 73.4 per cent non-guilty; 12.9 per cent remained doubtful. Fewer votes were cast on the question of restrictions; 8.9 per cent were for some restriction; 33.2 per cent dissented.

The verdict of the jury, prepared in advance, turned out to be anti-climactic. It was long and exhoratory before declaring Mary and John Youth not guilty. Reaction to the trial varied: Some felt it was a "fraud," a put-up job, as if they had felt so keenly about the issues that nothing short of a definitive judgment would suffice. Others felt it was so impressive that regular trials should be held frequently and parents be given their day in court.

The 300 ballots, while no conclusive proof of community or even youth sentiment, still showed an index of the true feelings that existed among them. Suggestions involving community action for policing of taverns, increased recreation facilities, parent education, and similar matters were also voiced.

It is interesting to note these reactions. Many of them show the lines of action our and other agency programs take. Above all, the audience reaction both from the attendance and talk which followed justified the effort put into this kind of project.

By this writing, the jury of young people has had several meetings to review and specify the recommendations in their verdict. The wish to do something more than merely render a verdict resulted in their presentation of a recreational plan to the newspapers. Beyond that, each member of the jury decided to go on with his regular groups and through them to support youth activities. It is interesting that the Youth Congress on Delinquency particularly felt enheartened by the trial and the testimony.

A follow-up meeting of the trial personnel was held. There was no attempt to "sell" them any mission for special activities of this sort. The young people themselves evinced mixed interest about forming into a special group. They decided to "mull" it over individually. Already several have decided that there would be a special reason for organizing into a group for further study and action on their problems.

Conclusion

The "Trial by Youth" as a technique or special youth project justifies itself only as it is related to the regular program of the agency, or as it may relate to the launching of new or special programs. As an end in itself it is effective only in so far as the individuals concerned are involved in its planning and achievement.

From the agency point of view, it serves to bring to the attention of its membership and the wider community its willingness to face and contribute to acute problems young people have. In this way the agency fulfills its purpose and obligation as a youth-serving agency.

On these counts, the agency accomplished its major aims, providing a special method to throw light on a current and crucial issue, and to emphasize its regular activities for young people. It acknowledged that the "Trial" was not a charge against any person, family or organization. The charge was against an attitude in youth and adults in the community.

The agency hopes and believes that the trial helped the people of its city to understand the vital needs and interests of its youth, and to be ready to give support to constructive programs on their behalf.

This is what a police surgeon, Dr. Theron W. Kilmer, had to say about hobbies at the annual convention of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (July 1944):

"The brain must have a diversity of thought or else it will become sluggish. The human system must of necessity have an outlet for the strenuous work of the average citizen. Next to the possession of a birth certificate the most essential asset to happiness and health is some kind of hobby.

"Nerve tire is manifested in a great variety of ways. You become nervous and ill-tempered. You go from one thing to another. You do not sleep well, and your appetite fails. These are all red flags of nerve tire. You must have some other outlet for your energy. Take up some kind of hobby—collecting stamps, leaves, books. Take up photography, anything that will stir your mental effort into another channel than the one that is now overworked.

"A great deal is said nowadays about juvenile delinquency. I have never seen a juvenile delinquent who had a hobby or whose parents had a hobby. Get children interested in something and they will not go wrong."

Police Captain a Friend of Youth

There are only about 2,000 people in Somers Point, New Jersey, but among them is a police officer with imagination and a real interest in youth, and back of him a group of individuals willing to give their time and money in support of a program of recreation for the town's young people.

WITHOUT an appropriation, without a budget, and without paid leadership, Somers Point, New Jersey, has a youth program which larger places might well envy. But Somers Point has Capt. William Morrow of its police department and a group of men who have associated themselves with him. And it has proven that in towns with such "spark plugs" appropriations and budgets are incidental.

Last fall the only movie in Somers Point closed. With 281 of the town's young men in the service and many of its older people driving four hours a day to and from work in a Camden shipyard, there weren't many left to patronize it. But the town still had youth up to eighteen years of age with little to do.

Capt. Morrow, with five daughters and a boy of his own, went to the School Board and asked use of an unused manual training room. On his second appearance, he was successful. A boys' club was organized with age limits of 10 to 18 years. A local citizen came forward with an unsolicited contribution of $50, and a punching bag, games, basketball, and gymnasium equipment were purchased. Capt. Morrow built a ping-pong table. The Somers Point library stocked some books boys want — books on how to box, wrestle, play table tennis and basketball. That unused schoolroom was humming with activity. Membership climbed until seventy-three boys were members, including all of the twenty-four high school boys in town.

The room is in use every night except Saturday and Sunday with a volunteer adult always in attendance. The club has fourteen adult honorary members —persons who assist in supervision or who have made donations. Incidentally, total donations have now exceeded $350 and none has been solicited.

In addition, the School Board has granted use of the gymnasium for at least two nights a week. A boys' basketball game is held one night a week, a girls' game another night. Numerous teams of both boys and girls have been organized so that all who desire have a chance to play. Boys and their parents turn out by the score to root for the girls and vice versa. The senior boys' and girls' teams are enrolled in a league playing out-of-town games. Basketball has been the principal winter activity. Plans provide for making baseball and swimming meets leading summer sports.

Dances are held frequently after the basketball games with music provided by a juke box loaned by a juke box vendor.

"Schools are the logical place for recreation centers," Mayor Fred Chapman asserts. "They have excellent plants which must be heated and are normally in use only about five hours out of the twenty-four." (Additional cost to the School

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Always fun, horseshoe pitching becomes an exciting sport when the decision is close!

Courtesy Chester, Pa., Recreation Board

The Community Use of Schools

By IRVIN ROSA
Superintendent of Schools
Davenport, Iowa

In April 1944, the twenty-first annual Midwest District Conference of Public Recreation Executives was held in Davenport, Iowa, under the auspices of the National Recreation Association in cooperation with the Davenport Board of Park Commissioners. At the meeting Mr. Rosa discussed recreation from the point of view of the superintendent of schools in his relation to the community recreation program. What he had to say will interest all recreation executives and laymen promoting the movement.

AT THE MOMENT we are more than ever conscious of the place of recreation. It can be and is a powerful morale builder both for civilians and men and women in the armed forces. Now more than ever American communities desperately need the unifying influences of recreative activity. It strikes me that one of the historic functions of recreation is this very strengthening of the bonds of community life. We have long recognized this in the schools by introducing a wide offering of extracurriculum activities. That has built morale and esprit de corps. It has built loyalty to the school and a community-mindedness.

The schools have several responsibilities in relation to recreation. Although the statement is contrary to the practice of many, their obligation and opportunity do not end with the children who are actually enrolled in the schools. They have an obligation to these children long after they have graduated. The education of today should anticipate the needs of those graduates when they go to work, get married, have children, and move on into the middle and later years of life.

Weaver Pangburn, field representative of the National Recreation Association, cites six obligations of the schools with which I agree:

He says first that it is fair to hold the schools responsible for laying a foundation for recreation by teaching activities in physical education that can be enjoyed beyond the years of the strenuous "big muscle" sports. In other words, they must teach such things as tennis, badminton, folk dancing, swimming, and shuffleboard, in addition to basketball and football.

Second, the curriculum of teacher training institutions should include subjects having to do with leisure, recreation, music, drama, arts, crafts, and nature, and such courses should be motivated by the community approach.

Third, the texts and curricula of the schools should reflect the interests of community life. This should be true of mathematics, reading, English, as well as other subjects.

Fourth, junior and senior high school courses should introduce the students specifically to community recreation and should inspire them to take a positive action and attitude toward it as participants and as citizens.

Fifth, school property should be designed and built with a view to much use after school hours as a part of the community recreation system. There should be three to five acres of outdoor recreation space adjacent to every elementary school and a minimum of ten to twenty acres at junior and senior high schools. All school buildings should have gymnasiums or large recreation rooms, auditoriums, kitchens, and miscellaneous other rooms suited to clubs, crafts, and sewing, so that the school may serve as a community center. Gymnasiums and auditoriums should be located on the ground floor and made accessible to the general public. It should be possible to shut them off from the classrooms and heat them separately.

Sixth, the board of education should be represented on the official commission or the community committee responsible for the community recreation program. The schools have a big interest in the success of this program which should build on and not in any way destroy the effects of good leisure time training in the schools. This is not to say that the schools should be loaded with responsibility for the recreation program, unless there is no prospect that the work can be done well under other public auspices.

In Rochester, Minnesota, we faced a situation where there was much costly duplication. The Park Board and the Board of Education each sponsored its own recreation program in the summer and winter. Friction and a great deal of unnecessary cost were the result. A group of men got together, including three board members from the schools, three from parks, the superintendent

of parks, and the superintendent of schools ex-officio, and employed a director of recreation. They also employed throughout the year, a paid staff of fifteen or twenty people, chiefly school people. This arrangement worked out exceedingly well.

If the school facilities are to be widely used by recreation agencies, what are the obligations of these agencies?

1. We have a right to expect trained and professional leadership. These people must know young people and adults, know how to work with them, and how to get effective results. They must offer a program that gears with, instead of against, the school program. The schools must feel that it is a program touching all areas and levels of community life, that it is well planned and adequately executed.

2. We have a right to expect intelligent use of school property. Boards of education are rightfully zealous in their desire to protect the public property entrusted to them. When use of this property is granted for any purpose they have a right to expect that care will be exercised in its use and that every opportunity will be taken to utilize the channels of recreation in teaching citizenship in the care of public property.

3. We have right to expect that supervisors shall be on the job. They shall be on the job before the first youngster or adult arrives, and they shall be the last one out of the building except the custodian.

4. We have a right to expect that the recreation program shall consist of more than a little physical activity. It should include opportunity for dramatics, music, the arts and crafts, hobbies of various sorts.

5. In these days of overtime for custodians, we have a right to expect the wise use of facilities both from the standpoint of time and function.

6. We might as well recognize that all public services, including the schools and other recreation agencies, will face presently a crucial problem in finance. The natural and inevitable reaction to great war spending will be a closer scrutiny of the local tax dollar and how it is spent. No right thinking person will deny that there is need in every community for a well-rounded, well-correlated, and well-integrated program of health, recreation, physical education, and safety. But we cannot justify from the standpoint of finance, or from the point of view of maximum return in service per tax dollar spent, duplication, isolation, friction, or controversy among those responsible for these important functions. These activities must be organized in a manner that is administratively sound. Maximum service, economy of operation, and centralization of responsibility are imperative. Petty jealousies and desire for control must be subordinated to service and efficiency.

Where recreation for the out-of-school hours of youth and for adults is centered in an agency outside the school, both it and the school must work together in the development of a closely knit program. The outside agency must analyze closely the recreative activity of the school and gear its own offering accordingly. The school must take into account the need for close cooperation with the recreation leaders.

Finally, there is need for careful community planning both for education and recreation. Future city growth should be plotted carefully with the needs for those areas closely in mind. There must be dynamic leadership by leaders of education and recreation. They must be men and women whose voice is heard and listened to, who have the confidence of their communities, who don't make too many mistakes, and whose judgments are trusted. There is a tremendous responsibility and task. It is no job for weaklings. Unless I miss my guess, the democratic public is less and less content with those who seek security in public office, and more and more desirous of courageous leadership.

No greater challenge ever existed than will presently confront all social agencies. The degree to which they will be tolerated, and encouraged, and promoted will depend in large part on the nature of their major contribution to social welfare. That will be the supreme test in the minds of the people. No nation physically weak and tired, or mentally tired and neurotic, can long survive. We need physical and emotional as

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"A space for adults set aside in a school for social intercourse, lounging and smoking could, through its informality, appeal to adult groups. . . . In fact, such spaces tend to break down the formal disciplinary and authoritarian atmosphere of the school, making for greater cooperative spirit and resulting in really significant contributions to democratic, happy living. This is a desirable outcome of any educational program.

"If school plants are not designed on the basis of this larger concept of education, especially in the adult field, it is quite clear that other facilities outside of the school will be required."—*Engelhardt* and *Engelhardt* in *Planning the Community School.*

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

CARVER, George Washington. "I Knew Carver," by G. Lake Imes. Twenty-four page pamphlet. Twenty-five cents each. Good Will, Inc., 1940 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore 17, Maryland. Born of slave parents, Dr. Carver produced 325 products from the peanut, and 108 from the sweet potato. More than seventy schools and societies have been named in his honor.

Conservation. A postwar program. "An all-out conservation program would offer greater enjoyment of life through increased recreational facilities. Most of us like and enjoy the out-of-doors. We like to see things grow. We like to hunt and fish. A program which would conserve our soil, water and forests would also have a highly beneficial effect on wildlife. . . . Such planning takes time. Surveys must be made first, and technicians require time to prepare plans for Congressional consideration." From an address by Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture, before the Annual North American Wildlife Conference at Chicago, April 25, 1944.

Danville's Nature Program is infectious. Since June 1943 the Recreation Commission of Danville, Virginia, has conducted a very active nature program. In the summer of 1943 when the hikes, field trips, bird walks and other activities were started, it was found that about ninety per cent of the children had never been in a woodland. Over 6,000 youngsters and adults in this community of 22,000 people attended the nature hikes during the summer and fall. When spring came, 600 took part in the bird house and nature exhibit contest.

The Farmer's Year. "Spring on the Farm," fifteen minutes; "Summer on the Farm," thirteen minutes; "The Crown of the Year," ten minutes; "Winter on the Farm," sixteen minutes. Illustrating work of British farmers. All 16 mm. sound films; nominal service fees. Apply College Film Center, 84 E. Randolph Street, Chicago.

Gardening. "10,000 Garden Questions Answered by Fifteen Experts," F. F. Rockwell, editor. Doubleday, Doran & Co., New York. 1467 pp., illus. $3.95.

"Minerals: Their Identification, Uses, and How to Collect Them," by Herbert S. Zim and Elizabeth K. Cooper. Harcourt Brace & Co., Inc., New York. 368 pp., illus. $3.

Nature Training School, to train boys and girls from nine to sixteen for leadership in the field of nature education, under the auspices of the Worcester, Massachusetts, Museum of Natural History, began its fourth season on June 26, 1944. Eight members of last year's school acted as junior instructors in various clubs and six others served as junior guides at the Museum.

Roosevelt Field Club is a nature club for juniors sponsored by the Buffalo, New York, Museum of Science. Organized in 1920 with Professor William P. Alexander as field leader, it now has over 3,000 members. It would be interesting to know how many former members have a nature hobby.

Science. "To the flourishing of science, that science does not segregate itself from the people . . . but is ready to serve the people and to transmit to the people all the conquests of science; science which serves the people, not under compulsion but voluntarily, willingly." A famous toast made by Premier Stalin. The interpretation of science to the general public is a privilege of recreation leaders through natural history museums, zoological and botanical gardens, parks, aquaria, planetaria and other media of nature recreation.

Science Booklets for high school age are available through School Service, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., 306 Fourth Avenue, P. O. box 1017, Pittsburgh 30, Pennsylvania. Generously illustrated. Indicate why you want these aids . . . for example, use in a science club.

Sycamore Stump, largest in the world, 56 feet in circumference, is located in Highland Park, Kokomo, Indiana. On April 26, 1944, a group of children had the old stump "talk" over the radio. The tree

(Continued on page 335)

"American children know a lot about nature—a knowledge compounded of city-bred grass and trees and creatures that thrive on cement sidewalks, sometimes picked up on a home farm or a summer camp. It is astonishing how much valuable information I am indebted to American boys for."—*Sigrid Undset* in *The New York Times Magazine,* May 28, 1944.

WORLD AT PLAY

Halloween in St. Paul

CITIZENS of St. Paul, Minnesota, enthusiastically praised the results of the 1943 Halloween celebrations sponsored by the Department of Parks, Playgrounds and Public Buildings in cooperation with Legion posts. The destruction of property during the evening was very minor.

The programs provided at the neighborhood parties held — and there were 122 of them — included costume parties, bonfires, movies, dancing for adults and teen-agers, races, games, singing, and similar activities. It was estimated that over 10,000 boys, girls, and adults enjoyed the parties.

Asleep at the Pitch

THE BRITISH Ministry of Town and Country Planning chose Milton Abbas, in Dorset, as a village model for postwar reconstruction. In Milton Abbas, the church faces the almshouse at the center of the hamlet, the vicarage faces the brewery at one end, the school opposes the hospital at the other; all snugly lined on a sloping road in a wooded cleft.

The suggestion stirred talk. Last week the talk produced an added list of essentials for the villages of postwar Britain:

Village green containing a cricket pitch with trees for the faithful to doze under during cricket matches.

Reading room with a table for snooker, to be played "on a cloth untrue with a twisted cue and elliptical billiard balls."

Indoor Gauping Place, preferably a smithy or a cobbler's shop, for lengthy conversations and lengthier silences.

Outdoor Gauping Place, preferably a town pump, where villagers can see what goes on at home while hearing, from fellow gossips, what goes on elsewhere.—From *Time,* January 3, 1944. Published by permission.

Gedge Harmon

A New Course in Arts and Crafts

THE Los Angeles, California, Department of Playground and Recreation announces a new series of handcraft classes at the Barnsdall Playground arts and crafts center designed to provide instructors to teach arts and crafts in hospitals. Men and women who want to learn the use of practical arts and crafts in the rehabilitation of war veterans may take the courses free, paying only a nominal fee for the use of tools and equipment. The subjects taught include pottery, jewelry, leather tooling, wood carving and woodcraft, hand and foot loom weaving, and block printing.

In addition to the regularly scheduled classes, the arts and crafts center will be open for individual work, and tools, and equipment may be used whenever the director is on duty.

More Parks for Dallas, Texas

THE acquisition of forty more parks, the establishment of a recreation area within a half mile of every residence, and the development of a scenic green belt around the city has been recommended to city officials of Dallas, Texas, in a master plan report on parks and schools filed by Harland Bar-

Backbone . . . not Wishbone!

If the Pilgrims and their loyal women folk had had wabbly *wishbones* in place of their sturdy backbones; if the backbones of the patriots at Valley Forge had been wishy-washy—America, land of the free today, *could* have ended in wishful thinking.

But the men who discovered, dreamed, worked and fought to build our great democracy, put their own steely courage into the backbone of this nation. It is backbone that *shows* whenever the chips are down.

You see it in our modern industrial marvels that began in a little iron-founder's shop less than two centuries ago.

You see it in our scientific miracles —in our agricultural achievements— and in our mighty war effort, today.

Have you considered that the maintenance of America's superb backbone lies in our matchless *youth* power? It does.

Out there on the playfields of our great democratic nation, where our youth—our potential manpower—fight to the last ditch in friendly fierceness, for a coveted goal—in vigorous, man-to-man, competitive sports—the *backbone* of our *nation* is renewed and stiffened.

On these battle fields of competitive play our boys and girls, too, learn initiative, courage, determination, fighting spirit, will-to-win despite all odds, tempered with fair play.

And on these fields is inculcated into their minds and hearts an unrealized appreciation of what it means to live in a *free* America. Try to take this freedom of theirs away from them — this personal privilege to think and dream and do in freedom — to be oneself—to fight for a goal and win it — and that realization will become a living flame. And in this fact is our greatest guarantee that America will continue to be the land of the free.

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tholomew and Herbert Hare. A feature of the plan is the recommendation that large parks be developed in four areas around Dallas. These parks, to be created where there are none now, are to be developed with picnic units and other recreation facilities. Many would be located so the land could be used for school sites as well as recreation areas. More widespread use of school buildings for community centers will be part of the program.

Janitors Like It Too!—Near the end of a recreation leaders' institute on social recreation held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the janitor who stayed every night and worked late to keep the room in order was asked if he would be glad when the last day arrived. He replied: "No, Miss, this is just what we've needed for a long time. I wish it would last two weeks. They all have a good time."

Loan Collections of Art—An interesting activity of the University of Iowa Union is its loan collection of fine reproductions. Any student or professor in the University or any citizen in the town may borrow a picture to try out in his room or use in his home on the payment of one dollar per semester. There has been such a demand for the loan of these reproductions that it has been impossible to meet it. Servicemen in training at the University have greatly appreciated this privilege.

Farmers Use School Facilities — The rural Central School at Wallkill, New York, has placed its shop facilities at the disposal of farmers in that area every Monday and Wednesday night at 7:30. The farmers have every opportunity to use the shops to repair and construct farm machinery. This gives opportunity for farmers to improve their equipment and to ease the burden of wartime restrictions on new equipment. The teacher of shop and vocational agriculture is present at all sessions to help the farmers.

Father-Son Activities Sponsored — In cooperation with the school authorities, Salt Lake City, Utah, opened six centers in junior high schools for father and son activities. School shops and gymnasiums were made available for craft and physical programs. Plans are also under way to provide sewing, cooking and recreation activities for mothers and daughters.

A Contest for Victory Gardeners—To encourage victory gardeners in their efforts to produce vitally needed food for civilian and war uses, the National Victory Garden Institute, 598 Madison Avenue, New York 22, is sponsoring a "Green Thumb" contest for both young people and adults. In the adult division of the contest a $1,000 War Bond is offered to the national winner. There will be state contests with a special trophy award for the prize winner in each state participating. In the children's 3-V "Green Thumb" contest, stressing the importance of vegetables for vitamins and vitality, a $500 War Bond will be awarded the national winners in both the elementary and high school divisions.

Contestants will be required to enter a completed Green Thumb Record Book with the appropriate victory garden chairman or local sponsors not later than October 1, 1944. This record book, which is available to all victory gardeners entering the contest, provides a means of keeping a record of what, when, and how much is planted and harvested. The contest will take into consideration neatness and originality, planting arrangement, choice of crops and average yields, quantity and quality, and use made of the crops.

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In many places where our men are fighting, it's hot — as hot as 140° in some spots. Voit Synthetic-Rubber-Covered Athletic Equipment resists this intense heat which dries out other balls.

Thus climatic and surface conditions that "play havoc" with ordinary equipment simply mean "play ball" for Voit Synthetic-Rubber-Covered Athletic Equipment. In this way, Voit helps make morale-building athletic programs possible for our fighting men all over the world. That's why *they're* getting the big bulk of Voit output — why there's only a limited supply of Voit Basketballs, Footballs, Soccer Balls, Volley Balls, Soft Balls, Water Polo Balls, and Home Plates available for essential civilian users.

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Sunday Evening Recreation in Lancaster — Lancaster, Pennsylvania, moved a step nearer to helping its youth find creative opportunities when fifteen pastors met at the Co-Ed Club with adult recreation and youth leaders of the city and representatives of the young people themselves. At the meeting plans were approved for an experimental series of five Sunday evening recreation and fellowship programs during July. The plans called for a special committee, including pastors, young people and adult youth leaders, to arrange for each Sunday evening. A parish hall was offered by one of the ministers but general opinion favored outdoor recreation, perhaps in one of the city's parks.

Florham Park Opens a Playground — On June 28, 1944, Florham Park, a small community in New Jersey, opened its first playground under the leadership of a director, a paid assistant, and volunteer leaders. To raise money for the summer's activities a community festival was held at which about $400 was cleared. A 25 cent ticket entitled the visitor to a frankfurter, baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad, and coffee. Additional frankfurters and coffee, soft drinks, cake and ice cream were sold. All the food, with the exception of the frankfurters, ice cream and soft drinks, was donated. Games were played, and pony rides were enjoyed by the children. Between 450 and 500 people attended the festival which was held on the school grounds.

Water Sports in Georgia

COVERING AN AREA of eighty-six acres inside the city limits of Augusta, Georgia is city-owned Julian Smith Lake, which the Recreation Commission is developing for swimming, boating and other water activities. Previously the lake had been used for the special programs of a boating club organized by local citizens.

The city Recreation Department is now planning to promote various types of activities on this lake. They are planning to purchase canoes, boats, and kayaks, which will be rented to the citizens of Augusta at a nominal charge. The program will center around special contests and boat races with motor boats which are privately owned by citizens living around the lake. The Army has consented to put on demonstrations of "amphibious" landing craft and other types of water equipment used by the Army.

Plans for developing this lake area will include a boat house, where citizens owning private boats can store their equipment for a nominal charge. The city will purchase various equipment, offering the people of the community an opportunity to take part in a boating program that the Recreation Commission feels is very important in a well-rounded recreation program. Plans are also being made to organize and promote various clubs for young boys and girls who will be taught how to row and handle boats.

In speaking of the program, Mr. Oka T. Hester, director of recreation, said this, "We hope to create interest in the older group so that they will help us in our promotion of boating for young boys and girls. So far, the older group has shown an interest to the extent of seventy-five members who are interested in organizing this club for the lake. We feel that boating is a part of the recreation program and we are doing all in our power to promote this activity in our program."

RECREATION will be interested in hearing what other cities are planning in the field of water sports. Write us about your city!

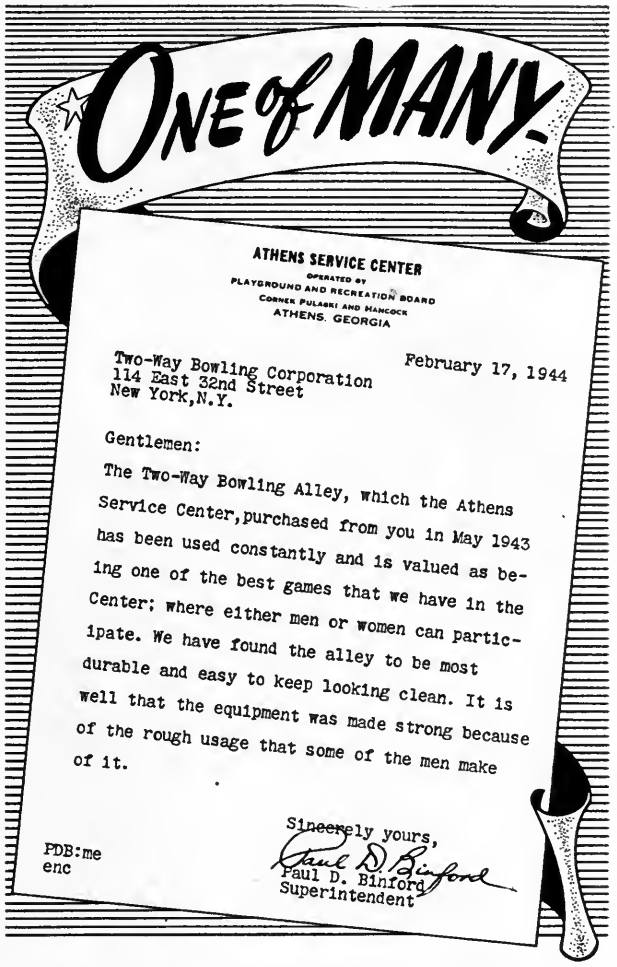
Airports as Recreation Areas

THE AIRPORT is a natural attraction and center of interest. Airports will not only attract air traffic in increasing volume, but they will act as a magnet for growing numbers of sightseers as comprehensive planning and well designed buildings in a suitably landscaped setting make the airport an important local attraction. Airport marginal areas and airport station grounds will be developed for recreational purposes. If the urban planner does his job well, airports will become increasingly desirable places near which to live, and new communities will undoubtedly grow up around some of our air centers. The type of recreation offered will depend, among other factors, on climate; type of airport—whether for scheduled operation, industrial use, or private flying; and the individual needs and preferences of any given community.

Types of recreation areas suitable for airports may include parks, playgrounds, football and baseball fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, and fields for flying powered-model airplanes. Recreation areas where relative quiet is desirable will be spaced in those sectors of the marginal areas between the runway approaches where trees and structures could be placed which would fall within a glide-path angle of 7 to 1 as measured from the edge of the landing area. And, incidentally, parks and forest land on the marginal areas of some of our civil airports would be useful in affording concealment to the military planes operating off these airports in times of national emergency.

Recreation areas can also be developed and laid out in such a way as to bring in the auxiliary revenue to help balance airport budgets until volume of plane traffic is alone sufficient to do so. La Guardia Field, for example, in its first year of operation took in $122,000 worth of dimes from turnstiles installed on the observation terrace which covers its 1,400-foot plane loading platform. Comprehensive and rational planning and efficient management can make the airport, I believe, into a self-supporting showplace of the community.

The creation of a suitable setting for the modern airport affords urban planners almost limitless possibilities.—From "Air Traffic and Airports in Relation to Urban Planning" by William A. M. Burden. *The American City,* December 1943.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In Defense of Hobbies—Especially Stamp Collecting

(Continued from page 311)

This is a type of hoarding to which the government has no objection. There is, in fact, a special Philatelic Department in the post office which sells stamps exclusively to collectors, and in many of the large cities special windows are set aside for these sales.

The solicitude of the post office bears dividends in other ways. Stamp collectors are cranks who seek perfection, and some have been known to hang around in front of a window in a post office closely examining sheet after sheet of stamps shown him by a patient clerk, in search of stamps in a particular position of the sheet or some in which the design is exactly in the center. Other stamp collectors sympathize with such scrutiny but some patrons, just wanting to buy a stamp to put on a letter, haven't always been patient with these perfectionists! So now a clerk in the post office looks over his stock of stamps and puts the best sheets aside for the stamp collectors.

Collecting is an activity of instinctive appeal. Either you like to collect things or you don't, and most people do like to collect something even when they call it "putting it aside in case it will come in handy some time." Psychiatrists tell us that the lack of satisfaction in any of the fundamental needs results in a compensatory type of behavior which may be quite detrimental to the individual's welfare. They say that collecting is a normal, basic desire of human beings and that a hobby has much to do with maintaining composure and mental freshness.

Living today is fraught with many distressing anxieties which tend to upset the equilibrium of many people. There are real values in any hobby in which we may be interested. The thrill of finding the rare and beautiful; the pleasure which comes from discovering a new item; the joy of discussing with friends something just acquired for one's collection give zest to any hobby and provide much satisfaction which helps in carrying us over the disappointments of life.

In London, during the great "blitz," public air raid shelters resembled collectors' clubs as men and women talked about their stamps or passed around a hastily snatched piece of china or other item from their hobby collections. The wardens found that these collectors, of all the people coming to the shelters, were the least given to hysterics, panic, or grumbling.

Through any hobby, but more especially stamp collecting, it is possible—at least in our opinion—to rediscover those mysterious and hidden pleasures that are to be derived from following our own interests and using our own efforts to produce masterpieces.

Columbia's Far-Flung Recreation Program

(Continued from page 298)

For the duration, the American Legion has turned over its hut for soldier recreation. Located in Maxcy Gregg Park, this hut is far from the noise of the city and nightly parties are enjoyed by soldiers and civilians.

Gonzales Gardens, Andrew Jackson and Allen-Benedict housing projects also lend their facilities for social and playground activities to servicemen, civilians and their families. The Columbia Recreation Program furnishes leaders to them.

Washington Street Methodist and the First Presbyterian churches have thrown open the doors of their recreation buildings to men in the armed forces, under city leadership assisted by church volunteers. Various church organizations assist with parties, dances and athletics.

Pretty girls are always on hand to play indoor basketball, table tennis, checkers, and card games and to dance. The boys also have available the reading room, as well as invigorating hot showers with towels.

Columbia's Recreation Program has a strong Negro program consisting of home hospitality, dancing and athletics. There are three community centers where preschools are held in the morning, teen age and soldier recreation in the afternoon and night.

Service officers, who discover the program upon arrival in the city, are amazed at the facilities and activities offered. Not only is the social life well taken care of but the home life as well, for there are lists of rooms and apartments which are available, a mending station where buttons and chevrons are sewed on, and nursery care centers, preschools, employment service, dancing classes, children's clubs, mothers' club, dramatic clubs and wholesome community life.

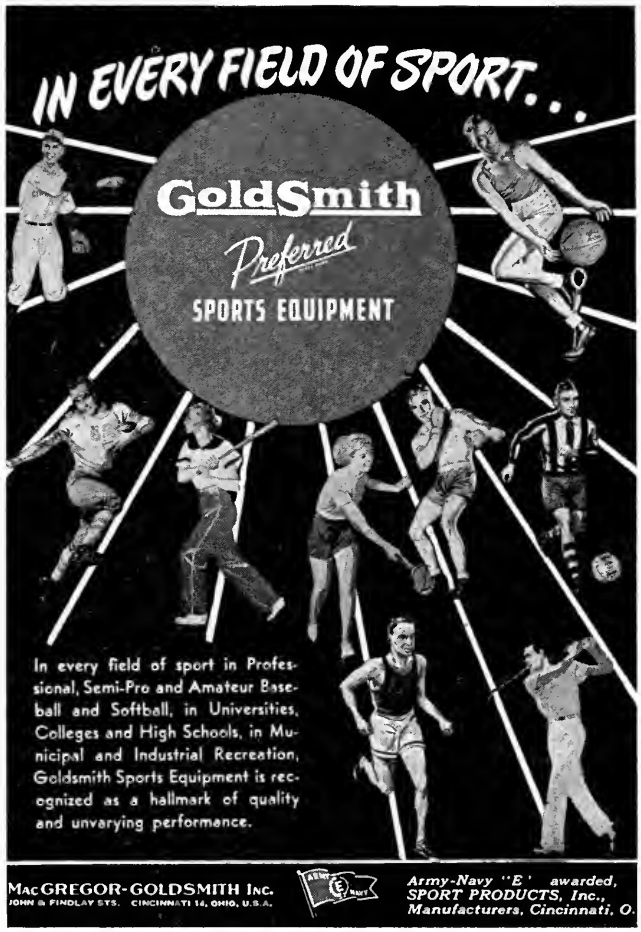
At all times the park facilities, including recreation cabin, preschools, playground equipment, picnic shelters and Dutch ovens are available to the public.

How Recreation Came to Norway, Maine

(Continued from page 310)

steps taken by Norway and the cooperating agencies so that people will see how really easy it is. We are helping her with this exhibit, sending her sample copies of some of the bulletins and the magazine, and also a few of the publications which will be helpful. Again in her own words Miss Williston says, "Of course I will tell all of the people that if they become members of the National Recreation Association they will be kept currently informed of developments in places like theirs, and they will find that they have made a very good and sound investment."

IS THIS THE END? NO—ONLY THE BEGINNING!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Sport Makes Good Flying Men

(Continued from page 305)

"In the preface to this latest manual of the Navy Pre-Flight Division, Captain F. T. Ward says: 'It is our duty to train the cadets to be superior to the enemy mentally and physically. Rigorous, tough, competitive sports offer an excellent medium to fulfill this mission. Records have proved that mental improvement goes hand in hand with better physical condition.'

"His remarks are particularly timely in view of observations on fitness recently made by Lieut. Col. Howard Berry of the Marine Corps. 'We have rejected more men,' he declared, 'than were in the armed forces last time. . . . The fitness of our citizens was a prewar problem; it is a war problem; it will be a problem in the postwar world.' "

The Community Use of Schools

(Continued from page 320)

well as mental strength and vitality. We must know how to recreate that strength and vitality. This is the joint responsibility of the schools and of recreation agencies. In isolation, each may be

You Can Use

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ineffective, if not harmful. Together, they possess untold possibilities for national welfare.

Square Dancing During Intermissions

(Continued from page 303)

Lady in the lead—single file, Indian style
(Gent puts the lady he swung in front of him)
Turn and swing her once in a while
Repeat five or six times
Circle all (one large circle)
Promenade all
Ladies keep on to the right single file
Gents turn back single file
Promenade all
Single file—Indian style—lady in the lead
Hands on the one in front of you
(Leader leads group into the center, and leading to the left makes the circle smaller and smaller until it is as tight as possible)
(Music stops)
Leader asks everyone to sit (very carefully) in the lap of the one behind him
All stand up
(Music begins again)
Hand on shoulders of one in front of you
Leader starts back in opposite direction and unwinds the group

There is another way of introducing square dancing without making a group feel that it is being forced upon them, and that is the plan of having a square dance going on in another room at the same time social dancing is being enjoyed in the main dance hall. A sign may be placed in the hall near the social dance group announcing that square dancing is being taught across the hall or on another floor. Where this has been tried it has been found that many young people will drop in to learn the dances.

Not Too Old to Enjoy Life

(Continued from page 314)

where old people have an opportunity to display their rare old keepsakes which give them such personal delight.

Clubs for older people (this has been done in Cleveland by the Benjamin Rose Institute).

Inviting the older people in the community, whether residents of institutions or not, to attend holiday celebrations and special functions where the "Father-Son" arrangement of the program is adapted to an audience representing several generations.

Checker tournaments, horseshoe matches, spelling bees, old fiddlers' contests, old-time singing schools, square dancing. Croquet, shuffleboard, checkers, halma, and other games known to be enjoyed by old people, including "old country" games, such as, "bocci" and "curling," should be provided.

A publication which has in it items of particular interest to older people, such as radio programs, interesting places to go, a calendar of events at the library and museum, easy recipes, suggested reading, original poetry, and editorials by the old folks themselves.

What Can We Do, or What Should We Do, in Our City?

Remind the Hobby League (which is part of the Playground Association) of the value of serving as a clearing house where hobbyists can get in touch with others of their same interest.

Remind churches of their responsibility to their own older adult congregation.

Remind city institutions, such as, schools, libraries, recreation centers, of the need for interesting older people in their programs.

See that institutions are aware of the persons on their waiting lists and, whenever possible, include them in the programs planned for the Home. (Perhaps other old people living in the neighborhood might be included, too.)

Suggest to recreation committees of the various Homes for the Aged to correspond or meet with each other and exchange ideas on recreation facilities, supplies, and programs.

Recommend to private agencies the possibilities of volunteer service in working with the aged, that is, writing letters, running errands, playing a new game, reading aloud, cooperating on a scrap-book,

and visiting with the excuse of doing these services, but primarily to *listen.*

Consider the possibility of a publication or even a regular column in a local newspaper devoted to interests of older people, especially those who feel "alone" and "aged."

Consider sponsoring a "treasure show" or hobby show.

Make further effort to keep institutions and those workers dealing with the aged people in their own homes informed of interesting things and exhibits which the old folks might attend and enjoy.

Recommend to recreation agencies that they consider old people in planning their programs, including them in as many activities as they now have, and arranging for others which may be particularly suited to their needs. These should include some consideration of how shut-ins can have some part in the agency's program.

Recreation a Developing Profession

(Continued from page 301)

because of our love for the work and the challenge it holds. Certainly the spirit in which recreation leaders do their work compares favorably with the spirit in which members of other professions discharge their obligations.

In Brief

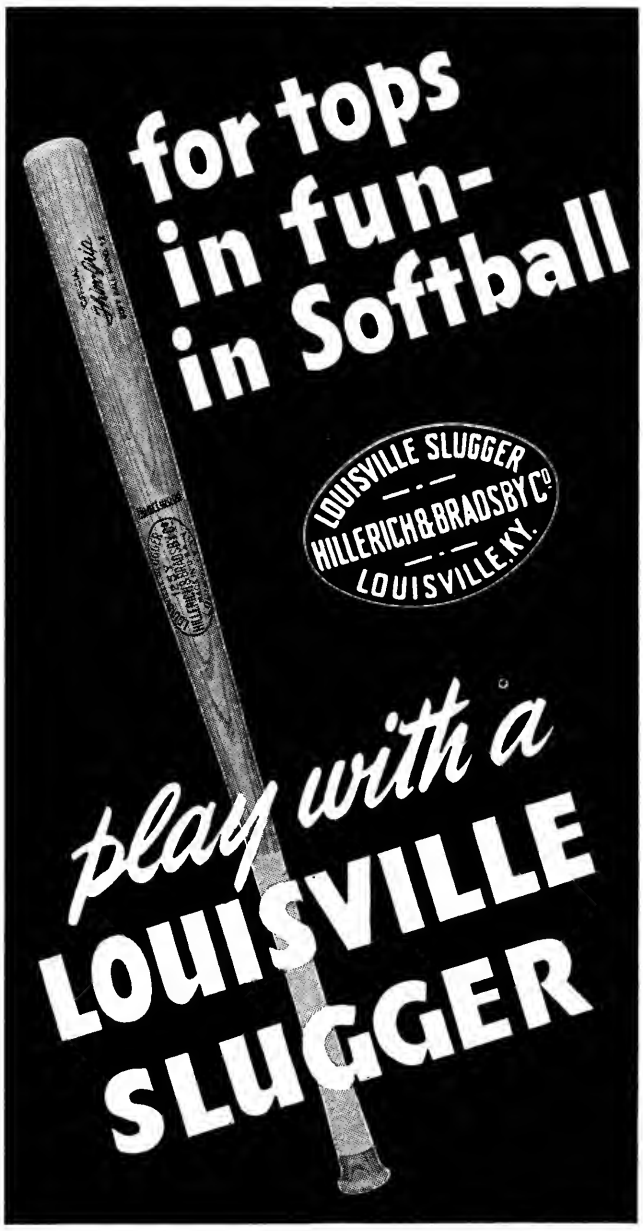
In summary, it appears that recreation is not yet a fully established profession but is a profession in the making. Although there are recreation leaders who may be classified as professional, the entire group does not yet meet the standards of a profession. Potentially, recreation is a profession. If recreation is to gain recognition professionally, we ourselves must take the initiative in maintaining and advancing standards.

Opportunities Offered by Your Social Centers

(Continued from page 309)

organized playgrounds, carries on activities in thirty-two indoor centers, and conducts municipal games, leagues, and tournaments in twenty-six different sports. (Extracts from article by *Dorothy Enderis* in *Annual Convention Publication*—1943—of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor.

"It has been said that a life without a hobby is like a house without windows."



That feeling of confidence when your softball hitters step up to the plate with a Louisville Slugger is one of those intangible but important things that makes champions. It always pays to play with the best!

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Send Inquiries to

THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois

The Blair Community Center

(Continued from page 294)

The information was all collected and the project began shortly after the closing of regular school. Blair Community Center was open from 8:30 in the morning until 5:00 in the afternoon—the period of time during which the data showed there was the greatest need for child care. Those who wanted to stayed for the full day, as provisions were made for them to have lunch at the building. The children took an active part in the planning, preparation and serving of lunch and in the cleaning up, too. Many times vegetables from the school Victory Garden were served.

The general plan of the Center worked out somewhat as follows but the program was very flexible and varied from time to time:

8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.—Group and individual work and play consisting chiefly of sewing, weaving, garden work, cooking, handcraft, art work, baseball, checkers, puzzles

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.—Lunch and rest period

1:00 P.M. - 1:45 P.M.—Reading in the library. Individual help and guidance when needed. Children were able to check out books for home use every Friday

1:45 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.—Folk dancing, music, singing, group plays and dramatizations

2:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.—Games (individual and group), sewing, crocheting, embroidering, knitting, art, handcraft, weaving

No child was forced to follow this flexible program but rather his time was used according to his interests and needs. However, children were encouraged to finish work that they had started.

Many handcraft articles were made for the Junior Red Cross, such as the three very beautiful and colorful lap robes for the convalescing soldiers at the Percy Jones Hospital. One of the robes was so attractive that it was used for a wall hanging. Pillow covers were also made for the hospital, and the boys and girls wove blocks for a woolen afghan for the soldiers. The boys made a number of bean bag boards to be used in one of the recreation centers at Fort Custer, and stuffed animals and dolls were sent to the local day nursery.

There were also opportunities for the children to make various articles for their families and themselves — doll clothes, luncheon cloths and napkins, dolls, stuffed animals. The girls made "shaggy rugs" after studying colors and working out color schemes to fit in with their bedrooms at home. One girl went a step further and made a vanity skirt and stool for her bedroom.

Over 250 children were enrolled at the Center last year and they ranged from six months of age

to seventeen years. Of this number fifty-six were of preschool age. The older children shared responsibility in working with this group by reading to them, playing with them in the sand box, directing the use of the teeter and other equipment and helping with feeding and rest.

The Center project for the season was culminated by arranging an exhibit and program for the parents and other interested adults of the community. The program consisted of folk dancing, singing, and a marionette show for which the children had made their own marionettes and theater during the summer.

A Canteen for Teen-Agers

(Continued from page 293)

possible for youthful vocalists from the audience to display their talents over the mike.

Supervisors of the canteen are divided into two groups: adult and junior aides. The children collect the admission fees, serve at the refreshment counter and remind the patrons to keep the soda bar neat and orderly. The committee reports that there have been as many as 400 in attendance on one night, though the average is between 200 and 250.

The canteen, which had been very successful over the summer months, continued through the winter—in the afternoons and Friday and Saturday nights to avoid distraction from school work.

Many of the neighborhood churches and business men's and parent-teacher groups have given $5 and $10 donations though now the enterprise is more than solvent. All debts have been paid and the committee is several hundred dollars ahead. This money goes into the Community Council treasury to launch another program for the younger (doorkey) age groups.

Much praise has come from both parents and local pastors who have visited the canteen. The children themselves have made many favorable comments. One boy said to a committee member in a reproachful tone one night, "You should have done this long ago." And a judge as far away as Chester, Pennsylvania, told a mother who was blaming the courts for inadequately coping with the delinquency problem, "If you and your fellow citizens would follow the example set by the citizens of Roxborough, Manayunk and Wissahickon, by sponsoring a project similar to the Community Canteen, delinquency would be lessened."

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Hygeia, July 1944

A Break for the War Wounded, Rex M. King

The Journal of Health and Physical Education, June 1944

Current Problems in Recreation, H. D. Corbin

Developing Citizenship Through a Swimming Program, Clyde E. Mullis

Golf Libraries and Museums, O. M. Leland

Social Action, June 15, 1944

Children and Young People in Wartime Communities

The Camping Magazine, June 1944

Teaching Campers to Sail, Joyce Bertram

Camp Festivals, Paul K. Weinandy

Camping for Crippled Children, II, Ernest B. Marx

American City, July 1944

Swimming Pool Purification Without Smarting Eyes, F. B. Griffeth

Parents' Magazine, August 1944

We're Tired of Juvenile Delinquency, by a Seventeen-Year-Old High School Girl

Play Yard for a Toddler, Evelyn Emig Mellon

Beach and Pool, July 1944

Mass Instruction for Beginning Swimmers, Robert Roger

Efficient Filtering Mediums, H. G. Turner

Atlantic Monthly, June 1944

Working Around the Clock, Paul and Faith Pigors

Parks and Recreation, July - August 1944

London's Parks in Battledress, Harley V. Usill

The Maintenance Mart

PAMPHLETS

Our Concern—Every Child

State and Community Planning for Wartime and Postwar Security of Children. Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Summer Activities for Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts, 155 East 44th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Summer Fun for Girls and Boys

Group Work Division of the Council of Social Agencies, Greater Portland Community Chest, Portland, Maine.

Outdoors on Your Own

The American Home, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. Price 15 cents

RECENT PORTER SARGENT BOOKS

The FUTURE of EDUCATION

256 pages, red silk cloth, $2.00

Reports on the changes that have been brought about by the military realists who have taken control —reviews the current hopes and aspirations for post-war education — regrets the timorous who advocate retreat to the dead past — suggests how to liberalize "Liberal Education" and humanize "The Humanities."

Handbook of

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

28th edition, 1024 pages, red silk cloth, $6.00

Completely revised and reset. 3,000 schools critically described or listed, cross referenced and indexed. The Introduction annually reviews and surveys current educational thought.

"WAR and EDUCATION"

1st printing May 1943; 2nd May 1944
512 pages, black vellum, $4.00

"One of the few books on education that made any sense to me," *Richard T. La Piere, Stanford U.* "Extraordinarily good stuff," *W. Lloyd Warner, U. of Chicago.* "Complete and scholarly," *Rockwell Kent.* "A most stimulating book," *Read Bain, Miami U., Ohio.* "A must book for all men and women," *Marco Morrow, Topeka.* "A vigorous book," *Merle Curti, U. of Wis.* "A mine of information," *Alliston Cragg.* "Amount of information leaves me gasping," *Maj.-Gen. J. F. C. Fuller, England.* "Indispensable to the modern mind," *John Haynes Holmes.* "Discloses a remarkable intellect, breadth of understanding, unbelievable mental energy," *George H. Tinkham.*

Circulars and Table of Contents on Request

PORTER SARGENT, 11 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass.

A People's Chorus and Community Orchestra

(Continued from page 299)

promoted a series of Sunday Community Sings, and has given concerts for Parent-Teacher Associations, War Mothers, and similar groups. The director is glad to accept invitations to sing before community groups of all types, and the organization is very much in demand. These public performances give the group a definite reason for rehearsing, and the groups and players derive much pleasure from having audiences who appreciate them.

The Playground and Recreation Association plays an important part in the organization. It handles all publicity, types the song sheets, buys all original music and scores, takes care of dues (which are $1.00 a year), and sponsors all programs. The director is paid by the Association, although eventually it is expected the organization will take care of its own finances, and may even break away from the Association altogether, as other organizations, such as the Little Theater and Civic Opera Company, have done.

Father Andrews and His Parishioners

FATHER ANDREWS, white pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church in the heart of the Negro slum section of St. Louis, is deeply concerned not only about the spiritual but material well-being of his parishioners and the entire Negro population of the city. He has organized Coal Cooperatives, Chicken Cooperatives, and initiated a number of other projects, among them the establishment of vacant lots as parks.

The story is told in the May 1944 issue of *Survey Graphic,* from which we quote.

"Shortly after the Detroit race riot, Father Andrews and a number of other St. Louis citizens, Negro and white, formed an interracial committee. The present Mayor, Aloys Kaufman, deeply interested in any move to forestall interracial troubles in St. Louis, proposed that the committee be enlarged, divided into subcommittees, each one charged with some specific phase of Negro welfare, and given official standing as the St. Louis Race Relations Commission.

"Through this official committee, Father Andrews is getting results on a recreation project that for over a year he has been promoting by word of mouth wherever he could get a listener: remodelling vacant lots into small playgrounds and parks in Negro slum areas. Most of the crowded houses have no porches and no yards. The public parks are miles distant. In hot St. Louis summers the residents have had either to stay cooped up in their rooms or hang around on the streets.

"Sprinkled over this area are parcels of land in 25, 50, and 75-foot lots that the city acquired for delinquent taxes. For years most of these vacant lots had been cluttered with rubble and wreckage after buildings were condemned and torn down. Father Andrews proposed that some of these lots be cleared, planted with grass seed, furnished with swings and sand piles for children and benches for older people. With Edwin B. Meissner, president of St. Louis Car Company and chairman of the Race Relations Commission, in the lead, this inexpensive conversion is now under way. Some will be ready for use by late spring, others by summer. The tiny, pleasant parks will make the city attractive and will help siphon off hot weather tension."

Police Captain a Friend of Youth

(Continued from page 318)

Board is only electricity for lights. All janitor service is done by the boys.)

"Although girls aren't formally included in our organization, their leagues and their attendance at the boys' games and dances take much of their time," Capt. Morrow explains. "We manage to keep all of the young people quite busy. From being a town with nothing to do, Somers Point has become a place with continuous activity."

Not only have these activities been made possible with no expense to taxpayers except that for a few electric lights, but the boys' club recently donated to the Red Cross $100, much of which was raised by a basketball game. The organization also gave $59 to the infantile paralysis campaign. Much of this money was raised by collecting scrap.

Boys pay an initiation fee of $1 and dues of five cents a week. They make their own rules and no boy has ever yet dropped out of the club.

Plan War Memorial

The club is not using the treasury it has accumulated, saving it as the nucleus of a fund for an unusual memorial to its soldiers to be built after the war.

"The city owns some vacant land excellent for a baseball field," Capt. Morrow explains. "We expect to have from $1,000 to $2,000 in our treasury when the war ends. We have several old houses around town which aren't worth much but have some excellent timber in them. We hope to buy these houses and use the timber to build a fence and grandstand. This field would be our war memorial. I know the soldiers would prefer that to a granite pigeon roost. The town is filled with handy men who are willing to donate their labor. That is one practical way in which they can give vent to their appreciation of the sacrifices of our servicemen." — From *Community Recreation Bulletin.*

Gym Mats
National Jim-Flex safety mats are used the country over by leading high schools, colleges, YMCA's, and camps because they have proven their worth. Built by experienced workmen from carefully selected materials and designed by a staff of outstanding experts such as John J. Walsh, famous University of Wisconsin boxing coach.
Write for full details on boxing and wrestling mats, boxing rings, training bags, wall pads, etc.
JIM-FLEX MATS
NATIONAL
SPORTS EQUIPMENT CO.
365 MARQUETTE • FOND DU LAC, WIS.

Recreation in Municipal Parks

(Continued from page 289)

memorate some event or person. Why shouldn't we recommend that these funds be diverted for recreation expansion, acquisition of land, construction of community buildings, year long swimming pools, and many other facilities from which the public can receive tangible benefits?

Our public parks now offer and are increasingly expanding recreational services. But the rate to which the needs are met is directly proportionate to the effective methods that are devised for crystallizing public opinion, public provision of funds, and adequate methods for stimulating and administering a recreational program. School and college physical educators have a stake in our municipal parks. They will be as useful as you wish to make them.

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 321)

not only "told" local history for the Howard County Centennial Celebration, but presented the birds that it had heard through the century. Mary E. Cedars and Elizabeth Calhoun, descendants of early settlers, wrote the script.

Weather. "Everybody's Weather," by Joseph Gaer. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 96 pp., illus. $2.

"Winter Victory Gardens," tells how to grow vegetables, flowers and berries indoors all winter. Virginia Larkin, Lark Publishing Company, 305 Walnut Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. $1.

Wood. "Wartime Harvests from Farm Woodlands." U. S. Government Printing Office, 1944. Eight pages, illustrated. (AWI-80) Single copies free from Department of Agriculture.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Musical Recreation 1944

Compiled by Lili Heimers, Ph.D. New Jersey State Teachers College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. $.25.

A COLLECTION OF SOURCE MATERIAL including charts, films, slides and filmslides, pictures, publications, recordings, and phonograph records. The subjects covered include Bands and Orchestras, Songs, Plays and Pageants, Folk Festivals, Holidays, and Dancing.

Subdivision Regulations

—An Analysis of Land Subdivision Control Practices. By Harold W. Lautner. Public Administration Service, Chicago. $2.90.

THIS IS AN EXTREMELY valuable compilation of principles and practices in subdivision planning and control. It includes a section on Standards and Design Requirements, with unusually helpful discussions of public open spaces such as playgrounds, parks, and school sites. It discusses accepted standards for different types of play areas and a review of local municipal requirements for the setting aside of such areas in new subdivisions by communities throughout the entire country.

In view of the expected large program of new subdivision development in the postwar period to meet the present shortage in housing, the discussions in this section should be of particular value to local recreation executives in making their own plans for making sure that new subdivisions in their communities are planned and developed in such a way as to provide for the necessary neighborhood and community recreation areas.

Baby Orang and Junior

By Katharine K. Garbutt. Pictures by Bernard Garbutt. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. $.85.

LITTLE CHILDREN will enjoy this story of the baby monkey and the elephant who became firm friends. This book is one of a series of attractive animal stories written for children. Another which will have a special appeal for children is *Muggins,* the story of a cat, by Bianca Bradbury; pictures by Diana Thorne ($.85).

You Can Make It

Things to Do with Scissors and Paste. By Louis V. Newkirk, Ph.D. and La Vada Zutter, M. A. Silver Burdett Company, New York 3. $3.00.

MOST OF THE ARTICLES described in this book are made of paper, and the authors have offered a wide range of projects including personal adornments, toys and games, gifts and decorations for holidays and special occasions, projects and decorations for school and home, and for the library and study. One chapter is devoted to a discussion of materials, tools, and processes.

A list of the supplies needed is given at the beginning of each project, and text and illustrations combine to make it easy for a child to complete an article without help.

Nature Activities

—Week by Week Throughout the Year. By J. A. Partridge and D. E. Farwell. Wittemore Publishing Company, Ltd., 177 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Canada. $.25.

A DELIGHTFULLY ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET designed to bring to boys and girls more enjoyment and appreciation of nature through first-hand contacts with natural phenomena close at hand. Each chapter is devoted to activities for two months. Illustrations as well as printed matter suggest the week-by-week activities.

Symbols. A Practical Handbook

The Lutheran Walther League, 875 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois. $.50.

HERE IS AN INTERESTING COLLECTION of Christian symbols which will be of great interest to all wishing to make use of such symbols in publications of various kinds. The revived interest in the traditional liturgy of the Christian symbolism and its beauty and significance make this a timely publication.

Free World Theatre

Nineteen New Radio Plays. Edited by Arch Oboler and Stephen Longstreet. Random House, 20 East 57th Street, New York 22. $2.75.

TWENTY-ONE DISTINGUISHED screen and radio artists have collaborated to produce these plays, designed for propaganda-for-democracy programs. Quotations from world leaders have been utilized as the basic themes of the plays, all of which are available royalty free for noncommercial broadcasts provided they are used to further the war effort.

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Culture or Kultur?

WE IN THE RECREATION MOVEMENT are concerned with building life. Of course it is recognized that life will be built by the people in the neighborhood themselves. At the same time leadership is needed to free the people to build. The "better" are likely to be run out by the bullies and the loud-mouthed unless a moderate degree of leadership saves a place for the wise and the considerate to be heard.

The cultural level of the entire program may depend upon the quality of the leadership.

What shall be the spirit of the athletic sports? What songs shall be sung? What music shall be heard? Will the folk music have a chance? What taste in the crafts will be encouraged? How far will there be appreciation of nature—of birds and trees and flowers, and clouds and all the beauty of the world? What books and what world policies will be discussed? What neighborhood volunteer service will be developed?

All this kind of leadership in the neighborhood recreation center builds and shapes a culture on a natural cooperative basis without imposition from above. Of course we all dislike the word culture but as yet we have developed no better. We would like to remove from the word all taint of self-consciousness, of superiority. However, there is a common heritage of life itself which does grow up during the time we are free to do what we want to do.

Free time in our villages and in our cities is going to be used by our people for choruses, orchestras, handcrafts, drama groups, nature and science clubs as a way of making and keeping life interesting, adventurous, challenging. If leadership for such forms of recreation is not made available through city government recreation departments, a new municipal agency will be created for this purpose before very long. If localities do not for themselves arrange this cultural recreation leadership there is always the danger that an attempt will be made to put over a centralized uniform plan that will have much less value.

Before the Second World War many in our country spoke with admiration of the nearly 100 per cent coverage in youth sports organizations under the central government in Germany and Italy and there was testimony that the youth themselves in these countries liked it. Centralized recreation was an important factor in giving military strength to Germany and Italy. Yet centralized recreation built a subjection to centralized government that in the end was disastrous not only to the world but

to these countries, Germany and Italy, themselves. There must be no Hitlers, no Mussolinis, to tell our neighborhoods in the United States the nature of the private lives we are to live.

This culture that has roots, this heritage of life is so important, has such value, that we must keep it from centralized outside interference by any federal government, state government or private group.

Now in the United States the tide runs strongly toward centralized government. With our arms we have valiantly resisted Mussolini and Hitler, yet we have unconsciously been influenced more than we are probably willing to admit by the efficiency from the point of view of power of their centralized government and we are in danger of being conquered by the very ideas we have fought.

Centralization in the care of unemployment, in old age insurance pensions, in caring for criminals, for the disadvantaged, centralization in preventing the spread of disease, in building roads—all such centralization has only fractional danger as compared with centralization in recreation, in culture, in building opportunities, for free time living. Each neighborhood, each community, please God, is different from every other and let us hope that each will remain so. In the end something precious would be lost if a large degree of uniformity were to prevail.

Yet make no mistake. For the nearly forty years that the National Recreation Association has been giving a cooperative leadership in sharing experience between neighborhoods and between cities there has always been a strong minority demanding uniformity, thinking of differences as chaos and saying, "Tell us all just what we are to do. We do not want you just to help us work out our program for ourselves." The National Recreation Association, however, has never been willing to become a central control or to relieve any neighborhood from making its own decisions.

Two principles stand out: there is need of local cultural recreation leadership and there is great loss if there be national control whether under private or federal government or other auspices. We want in America growth in living that is native to the soil of each locality. America has no place for Kultur.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

OCTOBER 1944

The Community School vs. Community Recreation

Photo by Isadore Wasserman

By JOHN S. HERRON
Superintendent of Schools
Newark, New Jersey

THE NATION'S CONCERN with the problems of juvenile delinquency has thrust upon school administrators and school boards throughout the country a responsibility of major proportions. Those charged with the custody and operation of 227,000 school buildings of the nation are being asked this pertinent question: If juvenile delinquency is largely the result of misdirected energy, inadequate parental influence, and lack of right direction and supervision of youth in wholesome leisure activities, why then is not this investment of $7,500,000,000 in school plants being more widely used to provide the program recognized as a vital part of the solution?

To phrase the question in other ways: Why should school buildings and playgrounds be locked up at 4:00 or 5:00 P. M. when they might profitably serve the community until 9:00 or 11:00 P. M.? Does the school's responsibility for youth end when the afternoon session of school closes? Is the afterschool recreation program of a city the concern of the school authorities or other agencies of the community? Is supervised recreation a logical and integral part of the educational program of youth development? If it is, who should conduct it —the school system, the municipality, or an independent recreation commission?

These and other questions of similar

Photo by Isadore Wasserman

nature are being raised. Community leaders, including school administrators and school boards, differ as to the answers. Apparently most community leaders, including school boards, take the position that recreation is *not* the responsibility of the educational system. This conclusion is substantiated by the fact that, in most cities of the country, organized recreation and playgrounds are conducted by agencies other than the school system.

"If school authorities control the capital investment in school plants and have the authority to utilize them for expanded community programs, why the hesitancy to turn idle school buildings and playgrounds into mediums of wider service to the community and to youth in particular?"

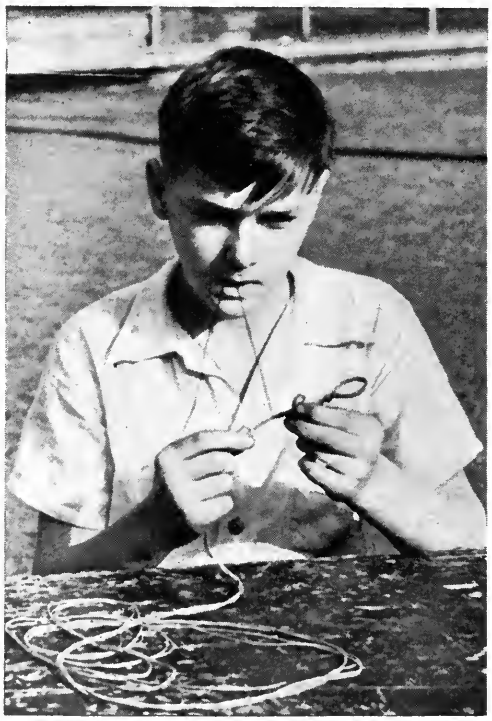
This is the question asked by Dr. Herron and discussed by him in this significant article, which originally appeared in the *American School Board Journal* for May 1944.

RECREATION wishes to express its appreciation to the *Journal* not only for permission to reprint the article, but also for the use of the cuts used in connection with it.

Why Boards of Education Hesitate

The patent reason why boards of education do not move to extend their authority and sphere of influence further into the field of recreation is largely one of finance. Extension of the community recreation program within the schools signifies increased budgets. Increased budgets mean the raising of larger sums of money, all charged fundamentally to "education." Assumption of the recreation program means more employees, expansion of supervision, and a twelve-month job to be done. Why take on additional problems and headaches and increased financial burdens when prevailing arrangements satisfy? Research by the National Recreation Association indicates that when the general financial situation tightens, recreation budgets are more in danger of drastic reduction when recreation is administered by the schools. New York, Philadelphia, and Cleveland are examples of serious budget cuts in recent years. However, in the face of additional financial worries, many school superintendents are individually studying the problem in the light of the question: Do the schools function to the fullest in providing the necessary recreation program which community needs demand?

More and more playgrounds are providing opportunity for quiet forms of recreation



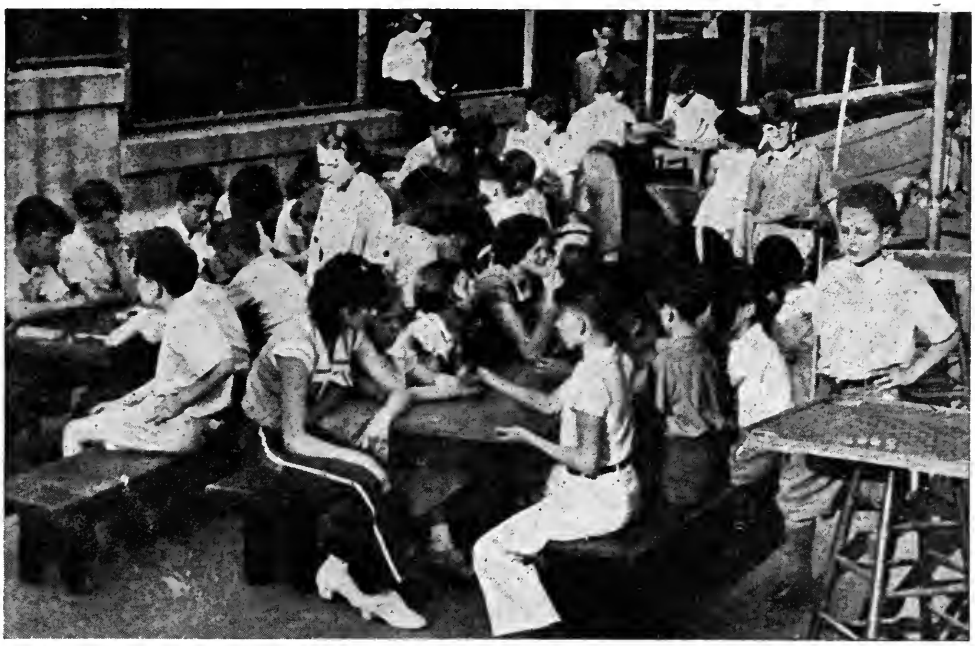
Concept of the Community School

If the present-day evolving concept of the school as a "community school" is the correct one, if the school is to be the center of community and neighborhood interest and service and promote the healthy development of children, adolescents, and adults alike, then perhaps the older concept of educational responsibility may be due for critical evaluation and modification. Certainly, a school plant which operates only during limited hours of daylight cannot hope to be the answer. Most assuredly, the "educational" program of the community must be broadened as to functions, the community itself must be "educated" as to broader objectives, and the community must be ready to finance the area of service to be extended, whether the board of education or an independent commission controls the service.

Guidance and Recreation

Authorities in student guidance without exception have for years stressed "recreational guidance" as of equal importance with educational, vocational, and health guidance. If this be true, is it logical to deduce that part of the responsibility for community recreation must be accepted by school authorities, and that the recreation program must be closely integrated with the school, its facilities, its program, and its objectives? If educators and boards of education are looked to for aid, in large measure, in the solution of juvenile delinquency, in peace times as well as in war times, how are they to wield this wholesome influence when they

so often have little or no voice in the direction of community recreation? These are questions which each community, particularly the cities of the country, must answer in the light of prevailing local conditions. Logically, the school authorities cannot be ignored if extended use of schools is to become a reality.



When it's too hot for strenuous games, there's the shady game corner with its many attractions

Is There a Model Pattern for Recreation?

The schools seem each year to receive from the community more and more problems to solve. At present, it is to the schools largely that social and welfare leaders are looking for aid to youth in trouble. The preventive program, we are told, is largely in our hands. The demand comes, therefore, to open up our school facilities more and more to keep youth in a wholesome environment. To what degree can and will school boards respond? Will this challenge thrust on an increasing number of school systems the job of taking over the major part of community recreation? And from this thought the question is raised: Is there a model pattern recommended for community recreation?

To this query, the answer is "No." The seasoned position of the National Recreation Association which speaks with impersonal authority from years of continuing interest, study, and research may be summed up as follows: "Because there are so many variable factors in the different cities, there is no single organization plan or pattern which the Association would recommend. All factors in a given city would need to be studied and appraised before one of several organizations could be recommended for that city."* Milwaukee and Newark are two cities in which the major public recreation responsibility is carried by the board of education, and both are regarded as possessing strong features. In both cities, the programs are given substantial support, both civic and financial. However, because success has followed board-of-education sponsorship in these cities, it does not signify that the same outcomes would be achieved in other cities. In several large cities, the board of education is one of two parties in a dual administrative plan; their programs, however, are largely limited to operation of playgrounds and indoor centers on school property.

In recent years, considerable interest in a move toward unification of recreation administration has been apparent in the search for greater efficiency, as exemplified by Baltimore and Washington.

With reference to Newark and Essex County, New Jersey, it may be stated that up to the present time the records on juvenile delinquency have been most favorable as contrasted with national records and the records of other large cities. Civic and social leaders of Newark believe that the integrated school-recreation program under board of education direction has had considerable bearing on the relatively favorable showing of the city in keeping its youth out of trouble.

The Newark Recreation Program

The following presents some of the most important aspects of the Newark recreation program as conducted by the board of education:

* From official communication of National Recreation Association, New York, under date of January 13, 1944.

Newark has a population of approximately 429,000 people of many racial strains, typical of most industrial cities of the nation. At present, the board of education operates 70 school buildings, ranging from schools of 6 teachers to large high schools of 115 teachers or more. Thirty-three school buildings, serving all areas of the city, operate as recreation or community centers throughout the twelve months of the year. Qualifications of recreation teachers are the same as for all teachers—college training, with special preparation in recreation. The salary schedule range is from $1,500 to $3,200 per annum. Four full-time supervisors direct the program under the leadership of the Director of Physical Education and Recreation.

All thirty-three centers operate in school buildings from 3:15 P. M. until 9:00 P. M. Eleven community centers operate programs two evenings per week until 11:00 P. M. All centers are open on Saturdays until 5:00 P. M. During the months of July and August, thirteen additional schools and playgrounds are opened as playground centers. Full use of classrooms, shops, auditoriums, and gymnasiums are available for the teachers of recreation. An additional corps of approximately 120 teachers are assigned for the summer months.

In addition to school plants used in the recreation program, the board of education for the past year has selected teachers for and supervised the recreation program of the Newark Housing Authority, conducted in seven new housing projects.

To meet the exigencies of wartime, because of the entrance of thousands of mothers into war industries of the area, all playgrounds, recreation centers, and community centers operated during last summer on a staggered plan of teacher assignment, from 9:00 A. M. to 9:00 P. M. Twelve centers operated school lunch programs during the summer months when regular schools were closed.

In addition to the program conducted by the board of education, citizens of Newark are served by play facilities in three parks under the Essex County Park Commission and by three baths and two swimming pools operated by the Department of Parks and Public Property of the city of Newark.

Evaluation of the Newark Program

The citizens of Newark have come to the conviction that the community recreation program as operated for twenty-five years by the board of education is the program which most efficiently serves the needs of the city's youth and the adults as well. Prior to 1918, there existed a dual playground system, operated in part by the board of education and in part by the Newark Recreation Commission. This dual arrangement was not satisfactory. Finally, the Newark City Commission requested the board of education to assume full responsibility. Subsequently, the playground pattern was expanded and established on a twelve-month basis. It has been operating since according to the plan as previously presented.

It is not to be assumed that perfection has been reached. Progress is being made each year as adaptations take place. The "community school" concept of education has been accepted by the community. The school principal today has the same responsibility for promoting the recreation program of after school and

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Red Cross sewing and knitting classes sponsored by recreation departments have a strong appeal

Town, Gown, and Fun, Incorporated

Private citizens, local groups, schools, and the University, too, combined to give Lawrence, Kansas, its city-wide recreation program

By ALICE M. GILBERTSON
National Recreation Association

IF YOUR CITY thinks it has recreation problems—yes, and recreation accomplishments—draw up a chair, and listen to the tale of Lawrence, Kansas.

Over a thousand cities provide tax-supported recreation services. Lawrence is not one of them. The Lawrence program of city-wide recreation, offered regularly six weeks of every summer for the last four years, and for additional events throughout the year, is supported by voluntary contributions. It is achieved by a great deal of inspired effort by a few key enthusiasts and a lot of organized community volunteer help.

Lawrence is beautiful. If you've never been to Kansas, banish preconceived notions of dust-bowl landscapes and Wizard of Oz strawscapes. This section of the country has trees, rolling hills, and two rivers. Surrounding territory has known dust storms and crop failures.

Lawrence is historic. This city of two colleges (the University of Kansas, and Haskell Institute of the famous Indian football team) gets its name from Samuel Lawrence of Lawrence, Massachusetts. Many of its citizens are as New England as baked beans on Saturday night. Beautiful tree-lined residential avenues contrast with store fronts that need paint. The city's principal hotel has lived through abolition days. The original edifice was fired three times by Quantrille and his raiders. This was "Bloody Kansas" in the Civil War period.

What is Lawrence like as a place to live? Frankly, summers get a little torrid. The weather, in fact, really inspired the first ripple of community recreation in the city. Back in the early thirties, the University of Kansas set up a special department under Dr. F. C. "Phog" Allen, well-known head of the Men's Physical Education Department. Its aim was to promote recreation activities on the campus hill, cooled by evening breezes from the Waukaroosa valley. The need was to make life more enticing for families of visiting summer school teachers likely to live in small quarters in the city.

Faced with this tropical temperature, Lawrence has only one swimming pool, commercially owned and insufficient for the 15,000 to 20,000 people of the whole city. Small boys do not have the "Y" pool to fall back on because Lawrence has no "Y." Parks, with one exception, are few, hilly, and small. Population of the city is 15,356. Park space totals only 26.13 acres. This is far below the national standard of one acre to each 100 people.

To get back to the early thirties: "Phog" Allen's recreation idea on the hill caught on. Jungle gyms, swings, and slides were put up for the children. Benches were set up for relaxing mothers. Shuffleboard courts were laid out on campus sidewalks for dads who took time out from their Ph.D. pursuits to relax. People from the town were given special invitations to join the fun "on the hill." They came to look on in the square dancing and remained to do-si-do. University students from the Community Recreation courses acted as leaders, got practical recreation experience. This town and gown cooperation is one of the outstanding accomplishments of recreation in Lawrence.

Where do Lawrence children in the city itself play and have fun? Maud Ellsworth, Director of Elementary School Art in Lawrence public schools, often asked herself the same question. In 1933 she sold the Board of Education on the idea of providing the use of a single school and janitor service for a summer studio.

What she wanted to offer Lawrence boys and girls as an experiment was a place where, just for the fun of it, they could paint, sketch, model clay, work with wood or leather with the help of a trained teacher. Three teachers not on the school staff gave their time two mornings a week. Maud Ellsworth herself directed the work without pay. "I wanted to see what would happen," she says today in relating the story of the summer details.

Art for *play* in the summertime—is that what you're asking? Here's what happened. Elementary school enrollment was 1,700. Between twenty-five and fifty interested children were *hoped for*. When 185 actually registered, it was necessary to draw up a schedule which allowed each child to attend the studio only two days a week. Junior High

Punch and Judy, two famous show ponies of Lawrence, were enthusiastic volunteers in the project to dramatize registration week at the playgrounds. With a costumed driver, a registration tabulator, and a gypsy storyteller and accordion player, the ponies made the rounds of the playgrounds where registration figures were entered in a giant book with a huge three-foot pencil.

School children who applied had to be turned away because there were not enough teachers.

The second summer, Maud Ellsworth offered her own time to organizing and directing the studio, on the condition that interested people in town give her sufficient money to pay instructors a small salary and to buy materials for all children who couldn't buy their own. Before June 4th clubs and individuals had raised $275. Half the amount came from the P.T.A. organizations. Letters, speeches, and newspaper publicity raised the rest. This second year, the school was open five days and employed six paid teachers, all with fine art backgrounds. Attendance swelled to 240. Four senior university students taught for practice teaching credit. One high school art student assisted "for fun."

The recreational touch was added in a number of ways: there was group singing, with music from a victrola. Poetry reading was often included. Groups of children went out every day to paint and draw. Young children were always accompanied by a teacher. Older ones went out alone.

One youth enthusiast is credited with really beginning organized community recreation in Lawrence. As the wife of a County Rural Agricultural Agent, Mrs. Deal Six had come to know and love rural people—youth and adults. With considerable drama training which included the Moscow Art Theater in New York and well-known theater groups in California, she started dramatics throughout the county. For three years in succession, her groups won the Senator Capper Award for the best rural dramatics.

When the Deal Six family moved to Lawrence, Mrs. Six became Creative Arts Chairman in the American Association of University Women. In spite of the fact that a previous children's theater had not been a financial success, she enthusiastically proceeded to organize another junior drama group. First production was "Snow White," which Mrs. Six had written for her own small son. First night was marked by a blizzard. Mrs. Six had stubbornly insisted on ten and fifteen cent admission prices; no reserved seats. But the play was a financial success. After all expenses were paid, including the amount which Mrs. Six had risked out of her own pocket, there was a tidy little sum of $50. With that first $50, Mrs. Six made a resolution. All play receipts would go back to the children. In the spring of 1940, when capital amounted to $600, she sought out the superintendent of schools.

"In your opinion, what is the greatest need of Lawrence children?" Mrs. Six asked Superintendent Clifford Dean.

It was a lucky day for Lawrence children. To this $64 question, the superintendent gave the perfect answer — "The greatest need, in my

opinion," Superintendent Dean informed her, "is a program of organized recreation, particularly in the summertime."

And so the fun began. The Board of Recreation made available the use of school playgrounds in different neighborhoods. The program was planned by Joie L. Stapleton, young women's Physical Education professor at the university. By the time all arrangements had been made, there were only five days left to secure equipment, beg and bully friends, relatives and strangers into becoming leaders. But Joie Stapleton did it!

A doctor who in college days had been a golf "pro," volunteered to give instruction in golf. Another man about town took on tennis enthusiasts. The university, through the cooperation of "Phog" Allen, made the university golf course and tennis courts available. The head of the university riding stables not only gave reduced rates, but furnished younger children transportation. The volunteer spirit became infectious. Mothers taught girls sewing they liked: how to make popular peasant skirts, halter tops, scarves. Before Red Cross service was needed, other mothers taught bridge.

After one summer the program had proven so worthwhile that the following year the P.T.A. Council joined the American Association of University Women as sponsors. A.A.U.W. funds still came from the source which started the recreation program: the A. A. U. W. Children's Theater.

The theater became a truly community interest. Talent from the entire city was drawn upon in casting and producing. Two university students wrote the whole score for the original version of "Rip Van Winkle." Play tryouts were city-wide. "Cinderella" was an unknown who had never been in school plays. Real horses pulled her coach on the stage. They were the well-known show ponies of a Lawrence business man.

During the days before the presentation of "Cinderella" even the weather became dramatic. When the temperature dropped to thirteen below zero, just prior to the opening night, the only solution was to house the ponies in the school where the play was to be presented. The owner himself volunteered to feed, sweep out, and care for the horses during their school stay. When the custodian grumbled at the idea of what the horses' hooves might do to the stage floor, the clerk of the Board of Education, to this day one of the most tireless volunteer workers for recreation, invented and made rubber shoes for all eight pony feet! Trees for the real garden in "Alice in Wonderland" were made by the same genius who invented and produced pony shoes.

Weaving, woodworking, sketching, painting, and puppet making are among the activities offered at the summer studio started in 1933 as an experiment, and now a regular part of Lawrence's summer program. Attendance at the puppet making classes, directed by Margaret Bushong, averages ten boys and girls from 10 to 14 or 15 years of age, each of whom makes a puppet during the summer season. Each year a play is given.

Today Lawrence's summer playground and recreation program offers real variety. Maud Ellsworth has willingly incorporated her summer studio into the recreation program. Other activities offered include weaving as well as woodworking, sketching and painting for two age groups as well as puppet-making.

The summer 1944 program included brand-new activities: drama for teen-agers as well as younger boys and girls; wider music activities. For high-schoolers, junior and senior, there are dances every Friday night at Lawrence's community building. A teen age canteen especially for high-schoolers was nearly achieved, then proved inadvisable. But teen activities, started originally from funds provided by the Business and Professional Women's Club with the P.T.A. Council, will go on. A survey of interests and leisure time available was circulated just before school ended. High-schoolers themselves are giving time to tabulate results. When findings are obtained, special activities are being planned by the popular young recreation director and physical education teacher, whose husband is in the service.

Even the administration of the Lawrence recreation program is volunteer. It is in the hands of a recreation council representing varied interests of town, gown, and city at large who give time, talent and effort of every variety.

Interested from the start, and one of the tireless workers on the Recreation Council is Mrs. Frank T. Stockton, wife of the Dean of the Business School at the University, mother of a Navy V-12, and a sixteen-year-old high school graduate aiming for V-12. She is one of the very active members of the American Association of University Women and Parent-Teacher Council.

Chairman of the Recreation Council, Mrs. Stockton conducts the business meetings, writes reports, sends out briefs to members to save them the time of attending sessions which do not need their help, writes and sends out the majority of letters to prospective individual donors, writes follow-ups, makes personal calls, sends news to the papers. On top of that, she does volunteer work at one of the playgrounds, irons out any snags in program or budget.

Right-hand "man" to Mrs. Stockton, and the individual called on from every side to get work done, is the Lawrence recreation program's first director, Joie L. Stapleton. Versatility is the name for Joie. Her permanent recreation duty places her in charge of personnel and equipment. Last summer she acted as swimming instructor on the program. For two years, she was chairman of the Fun Festival which raised funds for the recreation program.

Men, from the first, have been helpful volunteers for Lawrence recreation. For example, there's A. E. Woestemeyer, Scout executive, newspaper man, and civic worker generally, who also serves on the Recreation Council. Not all his work is recreational. When an S.O.S. goes out from the Lawrence canning factory for volunteer workers from the city, he often works on the night shift after completing a full business day.

Another Recreation Council member, Lloyd Houston, works indefatigably for the teen age activities: is on hand every night as sponsor for their dances, helping in innumerable quiet as well as active ways.

But voluntary work and enthusiasm, as stated previously, comes from all sides: town, gown, mothers, dads, clubs, just people. All large-scale playground activities can count on lemonade of the best by the gallon! It comes from a Greek restaurant proprietor of the city. This same citizen is a generous contributor to the fund which finances the program.

Mothers, during the past summer, were recruited by the Parent-Teacher Council to give regular volunteer hours. They were "on hand" at the playground to help take care of the greatly increased attendance of younger tots who turned out for the playground programs. Wives of servicemen, returned to Lawrence for the duration, are contributing music and dramatic talent for volunteer leadership.

In Lawrence, recreation is used as a means to raise funds for recreation! For the past two years, A.A.U.W. has raised its funds for the recreation program by a Fun Festival. This is also produced by pooling all community talent and by using all-out volunteer help.

Ideas, as well as help, have proven lively and interesting in developing the program. The schools, P.T.A. and library, working together, set up a list of books based on children's interest. Children who read a minimum of six books, three of which are listed as approved, receive a reading certificate at the first unit P.T.A. meeting in the fall. Because the reading is recreational and not required, the program has had results. Six hundred and fifty registered for the reading program the first summer; of these 165 received certificates. Seven

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Print by Gedge Harmon

A Harvest Salmagundi

You're right! These games *are* old—but perhaps you've never played them in just this combination. They'll make an appropriate party for the Thanksgiving season, and if you've never attended an affair of this kind you have no idea what fun it is!

IN PREPARING for this party, the young people removed the rug in the social hall. Then a great load of cornstalks, contributed by a local farmer, was brought in; the floor was covered with them, and they were tied into stacks and set up about the room. Pumpkins, scraped and made into jack-o'-lanterns, were set here and there. The center electric light was covered with yellow crepe paper.

This Harvest Salmagundi was planned for forty-eight guests. Twelve small tables or stalls were arranged about the room and numbered. Cards, previously sketched by an artistic member of the society, were given out. At the top of each, "Couple 1, Table 1," and so on, was written, partners were found, and the fun began. A five minute time limit was set for each progression. If, however, you wish to lengthen your evening, make the time ten minutes.

The tables were arranged as follows:

Peanut Job	Korn Kernel Contest
Puzzling Peter	Peanut Pitch
Apple Antics	Bean Bather
Raisin Rush	Apple Aggravation
Apple Duck	Pumpkin-Pie Pictures
A Pare of Apples	Seed Scramble

In cold print the twelve activities listed may not look interesting. In reality, taken together, they consist of an evening's uninterrupted pleasure.

Peanut Job. A large agate dish containing several dozen peanuts is placed in the center of the table. Each player is given a hat pin and a small agate pan in which to drop all nuts secured. A bell rings, the play is on. The couple that has secured the greatest number of peanuts before the closing signal has its card punched and progresses to

Puzzling Peter. Here the players find two large envelopes in which are small pieces of cardboard. Correctly put together, they form an amusing picture of the famous Peter of nursery rhyme. The couple whose puzzle is first put together moves on to

Apple Antics. This is simply an apple tied on a string, the old time Halloween amusement. The players' hands are tied behind their backs. The first two who succeed in biting the apple go on to the

Raisin Rush. At this table there is one raisin, tied on the center of a three foot long string, for each couple. The object is to see which of each pair reaches the raisin first and eats it. Of course the two successful ones proceed to

Apple Duck. A large pan of water about five inches deep holds four floating apples for which the contestants "duck." The winners pass on to

A Pare of Apples. Here each contestant is given a gingham apron, a small knife, and an apple. The two who succeed in cutting the longest parings move on to

Korn Kernel Contest. An ear of corn with uneven rows of kernels is placed in the center of the table. Each contestant

A young people's society was responsible for arranging this party which appeared in *Thanksgiving Party Suggestions,* published by the Recreation Division of the Chicago Park District.

is given a chance to turn over the ear, but may not remove it from the table. The object is to see who can guess the nearest to the exact number of kernels on the ear. Of course these must have been previously counted by the master of ceremonies. Each contestant must whisper the count to the master of ceremonies, thus making the affair very mysterious. The two who are successful proceed to

Peanut Pitch. Each contestant is furnished with an ordinary knife. On the table are four small agate pans. About twelve feet from the table is a pile of peanuts on the floor. The object is to see how many peanuts each person can lift from the floor with the knife, being careful not to touch them with fingers, carry them over to the table, then pitch them into the pan. The pans are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4. Each contestant must drop the peanuts into his own pan. Should he do otherwise, the count goes to the player into whose pan they fall. The two who have the greatest number to their credit go on to

Bean Bather. A deep agate pan is in the center of the table. On the table before each player is a pile of beans. These beans have numbers inked on them 1, 2, 3, 4. Each player is furnished with two toothpicks. At the signal, the players try to lift a bean between the two toothpicks and carry it to the pan. The two carrying thus the highest number move to

Apple Aggravation. This is simply a parody of the old time potato race. Four rows of six apples each are laid on the floor. Each player is given a knife. The apples are to be lifted from the floor to the table and dropped into a pan. The two finishing in the shortest space of time progress to

Pumpkin-Pie Pictures. Each player is blindfolded and given black and yellow crayons. A piece of wrapping paper is pinned before him on the wall and he is given directions to draw a picture of a pumpkin pie. The two doing the best work, which is, by the way, judged by a committee of two, go to

Seed Scramble. Each player is given a small pan and told to hunt for pumpkin seeds. The players finding the greatest number are adjudged the winners.

The signal is given to stop. The cards, each with the owner's name on it, are collected, and later in the evening the winners are announced. After music and songs, refreshments are served consisting of pumpkin pie, brown bread and cheese sandwiches, cookies, and coffee.

Try This One!

A new game of "Follow the Leader" might be a good feature for such a party. Each player is furnished with a pencil and with drawing paper of uniform size. The leader, who has been selected by the hostess, sits at the head of the half-circle formed by players. With his paper in hand, he draws and at the same time dictates a project of any description, which his followers must try to draw exactly as he dictates. He must dictate very slowly and give every one enough time to draw. If there are mountains in the picture, he will tell how many peaks there are, the direction in which they extend, and all the minute details concerning their appearance. If animals are drawn, the kind and the position on the paper are all that is necessary to tell. Many jokes on the company might be recalled and worked into these pictures. The results are always laughable.

Some Mixing Games

Finding Partners. For many programs it is desirable to match up all the players by means of some informal and pleasant device. For this part of the program the element of surprise and novelty is of special value. Following are a few useful means of "partnering."

Menu. Each man secures the signatures of as many girls as possible in a given time. Later, the first girl on his list becomes his first partner, and for each event on the program his next partner is the

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THANKSGIVING

"Today one hundred and thirty million Americans keep the day the men and women of Plymouth first set apart. We all know what Thanksgiving is—the day of the meeting of friends and the gathering of families. It does not belong to any one creed or stock among us. It does not honor any one man. It is the whole family's day—the whole people's day—the day at the turn of the year when we can all get together, think over the past months a little, feel a sense of harvest, a kinship with our land. It is one of the most secure and friendly of all our feasts. And yet it was first founded in insecurity, by men who stood up to danger. And that spirit is still alive."—*Stephen Benét* in "Thanks for America," reprinted by courtesy of the Council of Democracy in *The Thanksgiving Book,* published by the National Recreation Association. Copies are available at 25 cents each.

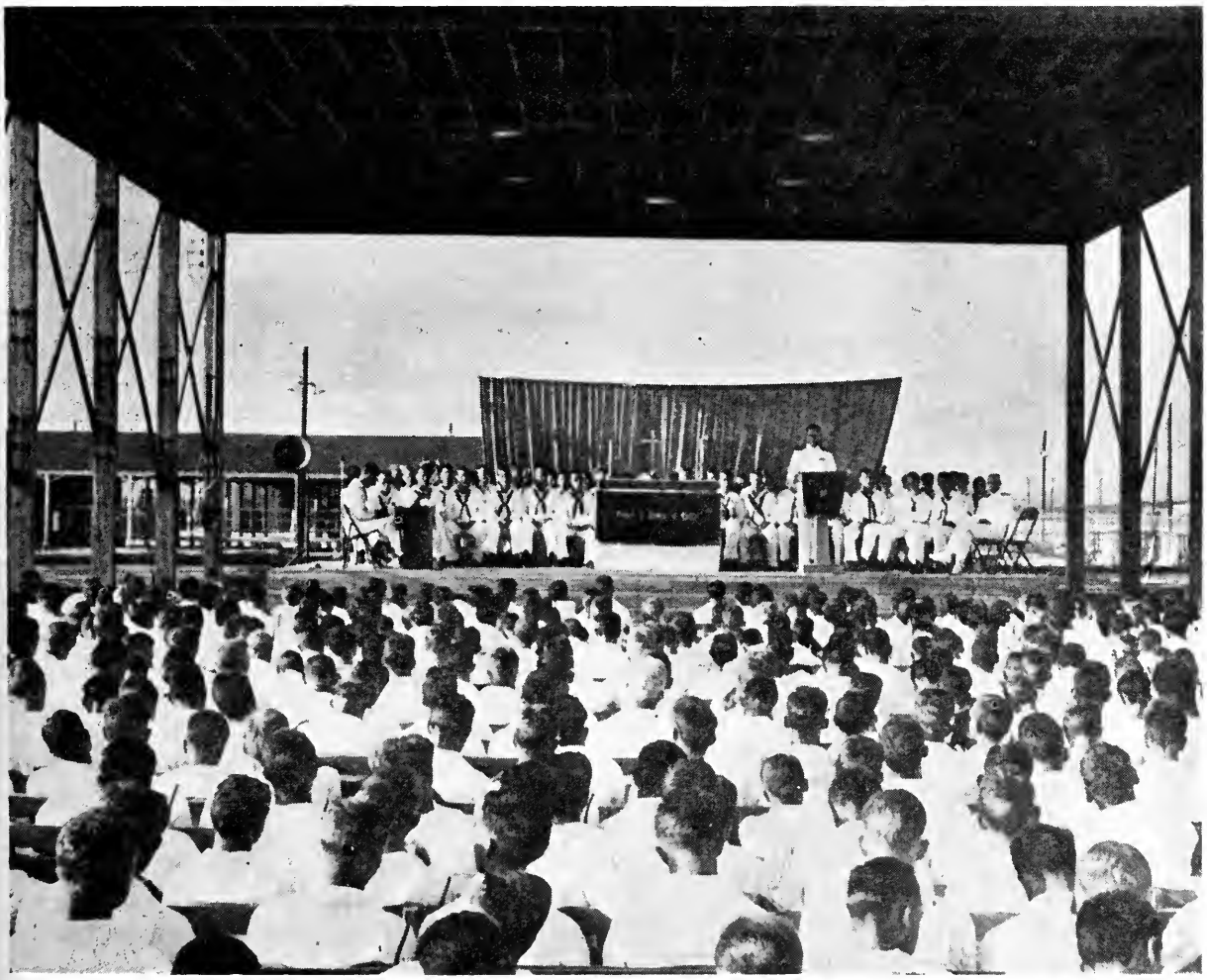
"The Things They Want to Do"

Lieutenant Commander Nicholls, before the war, was Supervisor of Recreation of the Los Angeles, California, Playground and Recreation Department.

The recreation profession has reason to be proud of the part being played by many of its members in the morale-building program of the Army and Navy.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER C. P. L. Nicholls was just back from a long tour of duty in the South Pacific. He had a job to do and a slogan to do it by. The job? To build a welfare and recreation program at the U. S. Naval Training and Distribution Center, Camp Wallace, Texas. The slogan? "Help the men do better the things they want to do anyway."

Lieutenant Commander Nicholls stood in the middle of Camp Wallace and surveyed his domain. It was the first of May and almost immediately thousands upon thousands of recruits and ship's company would be pouring into the camp. Not many moons ago all these miles of land had been plain, unadulterated swamp. It was a thousand miles from nowhere, this camp — a thousand miles from nowhere and flat as the palm of your hand. There were no lakes, no swimming pools, no tennis courts, no gymnasia—nothing but a vast sun-drenched, humidity-soaked stretch of fields and barracks lately occupied by the Army. Even for a seasoned recreation worker the problem was



Camp Wallace's open-air arena, with its wooden benches, was made entirely from scrap lumber. It seats 10,000, and is used for sports and entertainments as well as for church services.

a poser. Something had to be done and done quickly.

The next day Lieutenant Commander Nicholls and his staff of officers and enlisted personnel went to work to plan how to get the most out of what they had. By the time the men began to arrive they had a program planned out — a program which snowballed in scope and popularity as it went along. The plan had two cornerstones, movies and sports. Motion pictures were to be presented each night. Each program would be run twice and the programs would be changed daily. This met with the enthusiastic approval of the men. The hall was filled for every performance.

The sports program was a "humdinger." Softball led off. In one week 1,680 men played in 168 softball games. Volley ball and horseshoe pitching were very nearly as popular, and there was apt to be a basketball or ping-pong game going on somewhere most of the time. Intramural sports between the departments added the spice of team competition to the sports calendar. Softball once again was most popular, but the other games had their devotees.

Movies and sports settled into a daily routine soon after the men checked in. And, without pausing for breath the welfare and recreation staff began work planning special events to add to the structure. The camp needed an outdoor arena to take care of such events. It needed a giant of an arena, one that could seat 10,000. The space itself could be set apart without any trouble. The question was the seats. Ingenuity and hard work brought the answer. Scrap lumber has a way of collecting around a camp—a plank or so here, a couple of two-by-fours there. When all these scraps had been collected at Camp Wallace, when the rusty nails had been pulled out and the rough edges smoothed down, the carpenters went after the scrap with hammer and saw and Lo, in amazingly short order there were wooden benches enough to seat 10,000 men on pleasure bent. The arena was a great success. Smokers (with dancers, musicians, specialty acts all provided by the men at the camp), boxing matches, concerts, succeeded each other during the week. On Sundays two religious services were held regularly and regularly attended by 5,000 men.

Saturday night dances for the enlisted personnel were highlights of the recreation program. Young civilian ladies from Houston (with chaperonage supplied by the USO) supplemented the young ladies of the WAVES as dancing partners. The ship's company band made music and a good time was enjoyed by all.

A first-rate library lured about 700 men and women each week into its quiet, if not exactly cloistered, walls. A camp newspaper, *The Square Knot,* printed weekly achievement records in recruit training, sports results and stories about men in action, not to mention good cartoons and good jokes. Musicales with talent provided by the men in the camp and regular concerts of recorded music rounded out the program.

The welfare and recreation program has come a long way since that grim day when Lieutenant Commander Nicholls dismally swatted an early mosquito and sighed over the job before him. The program justifies the comment of Captain W. H. Green, U.S.N.R., Commander of Camp Wallace, that it "has been highly successful in providing a wide range of constructive recreational activities for all personnel at this station with the results that the program has aided greatly in maintaining the present high state of morale."

From Charleston, South Carolina, headquarters of the Welfare and Recreation Office of the Sixth Naval District, comes word of the following major recreational accomplishments:

Construction of gymnasiums, bowling alleys, game rooms, swimming pools, tennis and handball courts, and athletic fields

Erection of auditoriums where the latest movies are shown as often as six nights a week, admission free or for a charge not exceeding ten cents

Establishment of a district library system which purchases thousands of the latest books, magazines and newspapers and distributes them free

Conducting of intramural tournaments in such sports as softball, bowling, golf and swimming

Carrying on of a "ship fitness program" through which men headed for sea are taught rough and tumble combat games, swimming, cargo net climbing, rope climbing and similar activities.

Other services include the distribution of small recreation kits of games and athletic goods to the crews of small patrol vessels, and a more elaborate service to large warships putting in at the port. These ships may purchase at wholesale games, phonograph records, and sports goods of all kinds. The men are notified of recreation facilities available in the Navy Yard and in the city, and when the ships head back to sea they are given movie films, knitted garments, ditty bags, comfort kits, and books.

Recreation at Sunrise

By FRANK J. DELEAR

Mr. Delear, who gives us, in this story of "crack-of-dawn" recreation, the latest in our series on recreation in industrial plants, is Publicity Representative, United Aircraft Corporation, Chance Vought Aircraft Division, Stratford, Connecticut.

THE TOWN of Stratford, Connecticut, was sleep-silent at 4:45 A. M. The milkman was awake, and Joe—behind the counter of the all-night hamburger stand — had one eye open. But Joe and the milkman, with the best intentions in the world, could hardly be expected to provide satisfactory entertainment for the hundreds of men and women who poured out of the Chance Vought Aircraft plant fifteen minutes later.

The swing-shifters looked upon the early morning and found it good. After hours of close attention to the exacting jobs that go into the making of a Corsair fighter, they were pretty well keyed up. Men and women, old and young, they wanted to play awhile before they scattered to their various homes to sleep. But there wasn't anywhere *to* play — not at 5 A. M. in the town of Stratford, Connecticut. There were no movies, no dance floors, no workshops or swimming pools or gymnasia or classrooms open in that town at that hour. The swing-shifters weren't very happy about the situation. Neither was the Chance Vought Personnel Department. So the Department put its Counseling and Recreation Section to work in the solving of the problem.

Plant and Community Cooperation Solve the Problem of "Where"

The Counseling Unit took its headache to the community of Stratford—to the Sterling Community Center, the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., the USO, the Orcutt Boys' Club of Bridgeport; to the proprietors of movie theaters and skating rinks. The response was immediate and wholehearted. The swing-shifters got their place to play—every man and woman of them. The Stratford community leaders and the commercial recreation purveyors found it for them.

The Counseling Unit Finds Out "What"

The next step was to find out what kinds of play these people wanted. They were not a homogeneous group. They came from Vermont and Kentucky, Chicago, and New York. They came from the city and the farm. They were young and old. Their educational backgrounds were as varied as their experiences. Some were musical. Others were athletic. Some wanted to sit in a movie. Others wanted to paint a picture. The Counseling and Recreation Unit undertook to analyze and synthesize their recreational wants and needs. Personal interviews were held and a survey was made by card questionnaire. The day-time workers listed thirty-seven different activities as desirable leisure-time occupations; the night workers listed eighteen. With these lists to guide them, the Counseling Unit went to work to provide the kind of recreation program the workers wanted.

Many people with special talents were discovered among the personnel within the plant. All of these people gladly agreed to help with the program, serving as leaders or instructors for groups and classes. A recreation counselor set up groups for the activities that had been suggested. Then the counselor withdrew. The group was on its own. Except for occasional friendly oversight by the counselor, it was up to the workers to make their own activity "march."

Swing-shifters Use the Facilities

The "Dip and Dance" parties were the most popular pastime on the program. About 200 workers followed an early morning swim with dancing, movies, games or athletics of some kind. A father and his two daughters from Kentucky made square dancing one of the happiest features of the "Dip and Dance" parties. One of the girls called the figures while her sister and her father furnished the music on piano and fiddle.

Peacetime experts in many subjects put their talents to work to help their wartime associates find recreation. A former star of the World's Fair Aquacade gave instruction in swimming and diving. Other specialists taught dancing and fencing, music, and boxing. One worker, nearing 60, whose life-time ambition had been to train his voice, took vocal lessons—and made remarkable progress.

The workers at the plant requested instruction in such subjects as stenography, dramatics, interior decoration, and pre-flight aeronautics. Classes were provided in all these subjects. Spanish dancing and the Spanish language were taught at the same time, and many pupils found the tango harder to master than the "tengo, tengas, tenga" of the declensions. A request for a class in Chinese came from several workers. This almost stumped the Recreation Unit at first, but the counselors found a Chinese engineer among the personnel at Vought. He put a class of twenty to work mastering Chinese characters and inflections.

Ceramics, crafts, sketching, painting in oil and water color are all being taught to scores of beginning artists and craftsmen. Cooking and sewing classes are popular among the women who are, perhaps, looking forward to the time when they will need again the peacetime arts of the household. One woman from Vermont reported sadly that she could find recreation in only one thing — making a garden grow. There didn't, at first, seem to be any bits of land standing around loose, but the superintendent of a housing project made it possible for the Vermont lady to have her garden.

Perhaps it is too much to say that every one of the workers in the Vought plant now has the facilities to mould his world closer to his heart's desire, but at least he has the opportunity to make his leisure time full of interesting things. For all those activities that lend themselves to it, moreover, public performances are given (with co-workers for audience) so that these groups can have the pleasure of demonstrating the fruits of their recreative labors to others. Fashion shows and a "Varieties" show have been presented to enthusiastic crowds. The "Varieties" was a smash hit in spite of limited time for rehearsal and production. Still in blueprint form are plans for a hobby show and for art exhibits. The Drama group

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More than forty enthusiastic beginners and experienced artists attend the sketch classes held both at Sterling House and out of doors

Courtesy United Aircraft Corporation

Talent Scout for Servicemen

By DEAN S. JENNINGS

San Francisco has a canteen that's unlike the others. It's a "mental" canteen where servicemen may come to keep alive their creative talent.

ONE RECENT afternoon Signor Gaetano Merola, director-general of the San Francisco Opera, held a private audition.

The singer was a professionally unknown GI Joe, yet his rich tenor swelled like the tones of a bell through the vast but empty opera house.

"That's very fine, my boy," Merola said. "I think you'll do. Come and see me next week."

"Next week," the soldier said quietly, "I may be in the South Pacific. But I'll be back for the job—later."

On the same day another GI Joe sold a California ceramics manufacturer the first statuette he had ever carved in his life. A third soldier delivered the manuscript of a first novel to author Oscar Lewis for critical advice. And still another rode a street car out to a San Francisco art museum to attend the first exhibition of his own water colors.

There was nothing isolated about these incidents. They were typical events in a more or less typical week for Charles Cooper's boys.

In the past two years concert pianist Charles Cooper has pioneered, built, and inspired what is perhaps the nation's most unusual servicemen's center — a place where privates and officers can develop and keep alive their creative talent and ambition.

Some 3,000 men from all the services have already beaten a path to Cooper's big studios in San Francisco for their mental doughnuts and coffee. Currently they are pouring into the place at a rate of 500 a month — amateurs and professionals alike — getting started on postwar careers in the only kind of class the Army and Navy do not teach, or just talking shop before they go overseas.

Cooper's "mental" canteen, as he likes to call it, is no place for dreamy longhairs. Instead it is a practical, long-range project that is already paying cash dividends to some of the lads.

Since he first opened the doors in 1942, Cooper's boys have done hundreds of paintings and drawings that have been exhibited in galleries, or sold, or just sent home for the den. They have written books, prize-winning poems, and articles. They have composed concertos and anthems. They have danced with the San Francisco Ballet, and played with the men of the San Francisco Symphony. It hasn't cost the GI Joes a dime, and they've been given thousands of dollars worth of lessons and advice by professional musicians, actors, writers, and artists.

We need more "mental" canteens to give our servicemen the satisfying feeling that their talents haven't been "put on ice for the duration"

In fact, Charles Cooper's boys have done such a fine job that the city of San Francisco recently became official sponsor for the whole project and is absorbing the costs.

Cooper's remarkable service center is really the result of his own experiences during the last world war, during which he ran into scores of fellow musicians whose hands and voices had rusted because there was no place to work, even on furlough. When the nation went to war again he asked himself the question: "If I were

in the service now, what kind of help would I want most?"

He knew the answer, and he determined to do something about it. He already had an ideal setup, a group of studios surrounding a garden court in the heart of Chinatown, but he needed personnel and material.

He went to the city's art goods dealers first, coaxed them to donate paints, brushes, canvas, modeling clay. Next he approached art patrons, personal friends and business men, and talked them into donating musical instruments, typewriters, paper, tools, sheet music, books and office equipment. Art instructors, music publishers, draughtsmen, bookbinders, and ceramists soon got in line, and half a dozen radio stations jumped in with an offer of free time for any radio plays written by the boys.

The Servicemen's Arts Center was a fact. The boys came in dribbles at first, hesitant and abashed. One of the first was Seaman Cecil Bly of Asotin, Washington, who had once used a mail-order etching outfit and had always wanted to see a real etcher at work. Cooper sent him to the studios of Nicholas Dunphy, where the boy was given a start on his chosen work.

When the grapevine passed along the news that the Center was no stuffed-shirt salon but a real workshop, the GI Joes swelled into a torrent. As one youngster told Cooper, "I'd have given six months' pay and all the girl shows and fancy dinners put together to be alone with a grand piano. That's a kind of loneliness a lot of people don't understand."

Among the early regulars was Corporal Art Cordoza, who had escaped from Bataan. He was thin and jittery, and his hands shook so badly he couldn't sign the register that first day. But after a week of Cooper's "therapy," exacting but relaxing work with a paint brush, the boy had a fine start toward recovery . Subsequently he showed so much talent that he was offered a job as a designer by a San Francisco department store.

To encourage group activity, Cooper established a fixed daily schedule. Tuesday evening is set aside for classes in clay modeling, with occasional lectures on heroic sculpture. Life classes are set up for Thursday nights. Saturday nights are reserved for writers, amateur or professional, who join in discussions about literary techniques and styles. But the big night is Sunday. In one studio you might see a dozen boys, and perhaps a few uniformed girls, sprawled in chairs or on the floor reading play scripts. Next door there might be a quartet in blue and gold braid playing a piece composed by some sailor or private. In still another studio the walls would echo to the familiar strains of an operatic aria or duet, sung by young soldiers and sailors just learning the score.

Cooper maintains a list of distinguished volunteers of all arts and crafts, who will rush to the Center at a moment's notice to help a serviceman spend those last few hours in America with profit. And if any of the boys wants a private lesson, they all have a standing invitation to visit the home studios of the volunteer teachers.

The big registration book has long since gone into a second volume, with GIs from all forty-eight states and the territories. Some have come regularly for months while stationed near San Francisco. Some have stayed only a day and then shipped out for the battle zones.

Many of Cooper's boys have left their unfinished statues, paintings, and compositions at the studios. Later they are carefully wrapped and shipped to the families at home. Some paintings have been sent to studios and galleries for exhibitions, and the Arts Center has sponsored five such shows.

Cooper set up a card index of all the servicemen who had permission from their officers to work, and passed the word around that he had talent for hire by the hour, day, week, or project. The first call came from an Oakland department store, which wanted some showcard artists and window dressers for part-time work. Cooper sent them. Next he had a note from a San Francisco advertising agency. Did he have a layout man for weekend work? Indeed he did. And scores of Army and Navy men have participated in San Francisco's entertainment activities—from ballet dancing to playing bits on radio soap operas.

Cooper sees his work as the genesis of postwar rehabilitation, as the conception of postwar careers. For tomorrow the boys will be trading their guns for paints and typewriters and the instruments of music. The day after tomorrow they'll be in our magazines, our opera houses, our galleries, and our radio stations.

Perhaps Chief Yeoman Keith Allen summed it up when he wrote: "As I sat in the studio, forgotten dreams came out of the dark corners of my mind. I realized that all of us there had put whatever spirit and talent we owned on ice for the duration. You can do that with a Chevvy, but not with that part of you which is sometimes referred to as the soul. I was suddenly very grateful."

No Hits, No Runs, Plenty Errors!

It's no asset to be young if you want to join this highly desirable club in St. Petersburg, Florida! You must be at least 75, and the older the better.

ONCE UPON a time people got old. They sat huddled up in rocking chairs. Or they crept along, all bent over, down to the corner once a day to talk about the weather and remember old days. When they got to be sixty, women took to their quilting and men to their newspapers and all of them quarreled with their children about their grandchildren's raisin'.

But that was once upon a time. If you don't believe it take a look at the First National Three-Quarter Century Club. Over twenty years ago Evelyn Barton Rittenhouse, in St. Petersburg, Florida, founded a new kind of an organization. The only requirement was that no one could become a member who had not reached the age of seventy-five — at least! Today, if the adage "once a man, twice a child" is true, then St. Petersburg provides a playground for the biggest army of "children" in America!

"Take me out to the ball game" is the theme song for thousands of oldsters who come to St. Petersburg from every state in the union—even California, believe it or not!—to spend the winter taking part in the activities of the Three-Quarter Century Club. Their season starts in November and they do things and go places! They have regular meetings. They sing. They play ball. They cut capers all over the place.

The ball teams play to capacity crowds twice weekly. Thousands gather there in the water front park to root for their favorites. The games ring the bell for excitement, originality, fun and almost unbelievable accomplishments—unbelievable, that is, according to the standards of once upon a time. "No hits, no runs, plenty errors" is an apt slogan, and the errors are the high spots of many of the games.

One of the players was accustomed, when running to base, to stop just before he got there and jump the rest of the way so that he landed squarely on the plate with both feet. Another 90-year-old sprinter insisted on carrying the bat under his arm until he reached third. Then he'd toss it aside and really get down to business. One of the fans' favorites was a southpaw, and for some reason known only to himself he insisted on running to third base instead of to first! Every now and then there was a collision—and a scrap! On one such occasion the other scrapper was a preacher. He started in "cussing" and both the men got ready for a good fist-fight. But the preacher remembered in time and pulled himself away — albeit somewhat reluctantly. "Forgive me, brother," he said. "For a minute I forgot I was a preacher and *thought* I was a ball player."

Another unforgettable incident of the diamond happened to a "young" gentleman of 84. He just barely missed scoring a home run because he stopped half-way between third base and the home plate to pick up something. When the umpire jumped on him for stopping, the player yelled, "Well, damn it, I dropped my teeth!" Imagine the kick that 5,000 roaring fans got out of that classic! It even made the newsreels.

The baseball teams provide, perhaps, the most spectacular activity of the Club. But the chorus is at least equally popular, and it gives the ladies a chance to shine. The Club's secretary is kept busy thinking up new capers for the group to cut. For after you reach the three-score and ten milestone, pro-

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Miami, Florida; Richmond and Norfolk, Virginia; Providence, Rhode Island; and Brooklyn, New York, all have their Three Score and Ten Clubs, according to Mrs. Rittenhouse. The Three-Quarter Century Club in Maine has, perhaps, the largest membership, while a club of the same name in Battle Creek, Michigan, which was started with the help of Dr. Kellogg, is very active. Oak Park, Illinois, is proud of her Borrowed Time Club, organized years ago by a local group which included the editor of one of Chicago's daily papers. Lima, Ohio, and Seattle, Washington, each sponsors a Borrowed Time Club. Hamburg, Iowa, has its Diamond Club, and Royalton, Vermont, its Seventy Year Old Club. Some members from all these clubs winter in St. Petersburg, and there is an exchange of experiences. Each club is independent, with its own objectives and regulations.

A Library Book Fair

By ELIZABETH J. SPOORS
Librarian
State Hospital Library
St. Peter, Minnesota

A BOOK FAIR as complete as library space would permit was a feature of the program last year at the State Hospital at St. Peter, Minnesota.

There were six booths — Travel, Minnesota, Garden Life, Home Arts, Machinery Hill, and a Sideshow boasting a clown and fortuneteller.

The Travel Booth was the most extensive. Many pictures of foreign lands surrounded an outline map of the world whose slogan was "Read a book and see the world." The flags of the Allied Nations bordered the map, lending not only color but purpose to the entire display. Along the same wall travel posters were put up. The magazine rack displayed the *National Geographic, Asia, Traveler, Highway Traveler,* and other periodicals of this nature. An easy chair, a small table with interesting books within tempting reach, and a global map of the world, with a Chinese screen forming a background, emphasized the fact that the "arm chair" mode of travel is the easiest, cleanest, cheapest, and most pleasant.

The idea of Machinery Hill was an inspiration—but how were we going to make a gently rolling slope from chairs, a desk, piles of magazines and a few pillows? The problem dissolved when a downtown funeral director offered us strips of the artificial green grass coverings. Machinery Hill, proudly verdant, displayed its burden of toy trucks, planes, ships and tractors which spotlighted the trade magazines and books on the making of motion pictures, amateur photography, giant ships, and transport airplanes.

The Garden Life booth was beautifully colorful and the bright spot of attraction. Its background consisted of the leftover yellow lining of our curtains draped artistically over two chairs and a small stepladder. Amid the lovely confusion of nature's purples, pinks, reds, greens, yellows, and lavenders, we placed, at strategic points, books on wild flowers, small gardens, birds, and flower arrangements and the magazine *Better Homes and Gardens.*

The wares of the Home Arts section were set forth on the combination of a long table topped with an equally long knee-length bookshelf. Two glasses of jelly pointed out the cookbooks; a small hooked rug gave background to *Handmade Rugs* and *Home Weaving;* half finished knitting and a crocheted doily enhanced instructions given by the *Manual of Crocheting and Knitting;* a brass dish emphasized *Do Your Own Decorating*; and the remaining spaces were filled with *Better Homes and Gardens, McCalls, Good Housekeeping, Ladies Home Journal,* and other magazines.

The Sideshow made use of a great many cardboard boxes cut out to resemble cages and splashed with gay carnival colors. Inside these cages resided books on the ferocious animals of the jungle. For atmosphere, we added a toy elephant, goat, giraffe and a Humpty Dumpty borrowed from the circus which had been given by the Recreation Department of the hospital. In these surroundings the fortuneteller forecast futures with cards on which had been typed the titles of books.

We had been saving the cellophane wrappers from cigarette packages and on Book Fair day we filled them with popcorn and passed them to everyone—and the thirty-six cents spent for three bags of corn was the only financial outlay for the whole affair.

Entertainment consisted of a Book Dance with six girls inside huge books of wrapping paper colored and titled appropriately, a group of folk dances as a special feature of the Travel booth, and singing by a group of women. A clown, whose identity remained unknown, officiated well and kept even the most bewildered guests entertained.

The consensus of opinion was that the affair was a complete success. But most important thing of all was that there has been continued interest in the books which were on display at the Fair and in the library all year round.

"Let us make 'United Through Books' our contribution to the better world that a deeper, richer understanding alone will make possible," urges the Committee sponsoring Children's Book Week, which will be celebrated November 12-18, 1944. Promotional material will soon be available. Complete information may be secured from Laura Harris, Director, Children's Book Week, 62 West 45th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Living Marionettes Take a Bow

By HAZEL GLAISTER ROBERTSON
Children's Theatre
Palo Alto, California

"WHERE's my voice? Have you seen my voice?" begs the Snooty Bush Pig.

"Oh, don't have a fit, Jane. Your voice and mine are in the workshop getting our controls."

Of all the frantic, last minute searches that can be made just before curtain time, none is so urgent and detached as an actor searching for his voice! It often happens in Palo Alto's Children's Theatre just before places are called for Live Marionette shows.

Living marionettes were used for the first time last year at Palo Alto, where new techniques are constantly sought after. The director and staff are always on the alert to introduce fresh possibilities in dramatics to the hundreds of boys and girls who participate each year in this outstanding play shop. Since 1932, when the Children's Theatre was started with a handful of youngsters, it has come a long way.* It is probably the only organization of its kind in the country because it is subsidized by the city and open to all the children of the community who wish to come. Each year the theatre presents a very full program—a major production every six weeks during the school year, a show a week during the summer, festivals, and creative dramatic shows. Living marionettes offer the latest technique that has been tried for giving the boys and girls who participate the best possible chance to learn a craft.

Dramatic values are well served by living marionettes. There is no better way, for example, to prove to youngsters that a character comes alive on the stage only through a combination of physical and mental interpretation. The children on the acting end of the strings have been thoroughly trained in pantomime; they have been costumed and made-up. But, until they find their voices, the play cannot go on. The two parts of the character, body and voice, must reach a common understanding of the part they are playing. This necessity is pointed up by the physical need of coming together before the curtain can rise.

Picture by Anita Fowler

There are other things to recommend the live marionette technique for child actors. The finished product has a high entertainment value for young audiences. Most youngsters like marionettes and good scripts can always be found for them, but the ordinary marionette show has disadvantages for the audience and for the production group. Watching mechanical marionettes acting on their small stages is not altogether easy on young eyes, and the audience is apt to get restless under the strain. With live actors performing in the matter of marionettes, all the fun of

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* See RECREATION XXXV, 9, December 1941.

Americans at Play in the Far North

It is a matter of regret that space does not permit of our publishing in its entirety the Report of the Summer Recreation Activities of the Recreational Council of Ketchikan, Alaska, forwarded to us by the Alaska Department of Public Welfare, which commends heartily the work which has been done. It is a record of community planning and cooperation which might well set a pattern for many a larger city.

KETCHIKAN is Alaska's second largest town. Its residents — there are about 5,000 of them during the winter season — take their living, for the most part, from the sea. Fishing and salmon canning are its principal resources. Since 1942, due to the ubiquitous labor shortage, many of Ketchikan's women and older boys have joined the men in getting the season's catch in and canned.

A Problem Seen and Faced

Summer days are long in Ketchikan—long and often rainy or fog-filled. Ketchikan's boys and girls were restless and at loose ends. Like so many other youngsters all over the United States, some of them sought outlets for their undirected energies in petty crime, in drinking and loafing. They were bored, and they got into mischief. The citizens of the town came together to find a remedy for this evil that was threatening all their children when it threatened one.

The adults recognized this problem of juvenile delinquency as their problem. They thought that they had the remedy. The believed that if they could fill up this void of time with useful and healthful activity; if they could match this restlessness with enthusiasm directed toward something; if they could provide friendly and helpful supervision—if they could do these things they would have solved the problem out of hand and with no further ado. They established and supported—with interest and fund—a Recreational Council, a group of people who met twice each month to find ways and means for bringing about the objectives they had set themselves.

Physical Equipment and Leadership

With the whole community behind them, the Council acquired six playgrounds in addition to the two school playgrounds already in existence. These were graded and filled by the city, equipped and put in working condition by such organizations as the Elks Lodge. A swimming park, four miles outside of the town, was cleaned up and made ready for use when the weather would permit. An indoor play center for rainy days was contributed by the city and renovated. Two coastguardsmen were loaned by their captain to supervise the outdoor recreation program and a full-time director was hired to run the play center.

The Program

By the time that playgrounds and indoor center were ready, the Council (after due consultation with the youngsters concerned) planned a program for the summer. The season got off to a good start with a two-weeks marble tournament complete with prizes and publicity. This was followed by softball leagues which were welcomed with open arms by the boys. Arrangements were made to have a big game hunter who lived in the community give instruction in archery. Children and adults, professionals and beginners flocked to the butts and continued flocking throughout the summer.

Every afternoon (except Wednesday) eighty youngsters were taken by truck to the swimming park. Forty of them were learning to swim for the first time. Going to and coming from the park they developed their own community singing. Wednesday was movie day. Youngsters and adults both poured into the USO gymnasium to see the shows, which, by the way, were media for visual education as well as fun for the kids.

Swimming, hiking, and fishing trips to one of the three lakes near Ketchikan were planned for Saturday afternoons. Good weather was preferred for these outings but they took place rain or shine —to the tune of laughter and pokes and familiar songs — and they were remembered and talked about for weeks afterward.

Off and on during the summer the youngsters were taken on educational field trips to Ketchikan industries. They went to the Fish Laboratory or the Cannery or the Mink Farm so that they might be more intelligent about the community in which they lived.

The play center was the scene of great activity. Radio classes were held on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9. Courses in Morse code.

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Have a Theme for Your Party

By ETHEL BOWERS
National Recreation Association

WHAT KIND of an affair are you going to have? If a dance, is it to be just a dance, or a dance with table and other games nearby, an old-fashioned dance, a square dance, or one with a night club setting? For a fiesta you'll want dancing, yes, but also booths for refreshments and games, strolling entertainers and special events. A progressive games party or a carnival should have booths for games of all kinds, while an open house party offers every available game and activity plus informal dancing and singing around the piano. Both the progressive games party and open house party usually end with square dancing or social dancing. A cruise party is just about the same, but with a shipboard atmosphere, visiting "native" entertainers, special events, and finishes with a captain's ball.

There is the outdoor-indoor party starting with a treasure, salvage or scavenger hunt, with a picnic or cook-out of some kind, swim, bicycle ride, or hike, roller or ice skating, field day or just outdoor games and concluding indoors with dancing, either square or social, singing, and perhaps an amateur hour.

Where space is limited or it is desired to have people in small groups, we sometimes have the "unit" party with different activities in each room or in the corners of a large room, or at banquet tables. A good example of this is "Everybody's Birthday Party" with twelve groups, one for each month, according to the guest's birth month, or "A College Course in One Evening," with groups representing the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes.

When you have a large room and do not wish to have dancing, especially where there is only one trained leader available, the mass party is advisable, in which everyone does the same thing under the leader's direction. The program usually consists of a preparty activity, musical, active and quiet games, singing and possibly entertainment or stunts.

When parties must be held in a hall with fixed seats, or a huge crowd of people of all ages must be jammed into one small hall, an auditorium party is suggested. This may consist of songs of all kinds (especially action songs, or those with stamping, clapping, rising up and sitting down, and the accumulation songs such as "Old MacDonald Has a Farm"), quizzes, stunts, amateur hours, mock broadcasts and contests, with everyone participating or with a few from each team. Often this party finishes with movies or a community sing.

Among the novelty parties are the "crazy" type used for April Fool's Day especially, the costume parties, and the do-it-yourself parties where the guests make things such as costumes, decorations, their own refreshments, or souvenirs to take home. Finally, there is the banquet and the usual small home birthday party or other family celebration.

Having selected the most suitable type of party, the next thing is to get a theme to fit the occasion, the time of year, the people, and their interests. By adapting games to this theme, giving them new names, using suitable songs and music for musical mixers, finding or making up quizzes on the subject and having at your fingertips some old standbys such as a Grand March, a Virginia Reel, or a square dance or two—you can build your own party around the theme you have selected. If in addition you can draw out the creative abilities of the guests in stunts and find and use their talents in an amateur hour, you will have an interesting evening for young and old, participant or spectator.

Parties written around a number of the themes suggested here are available from the National Recreation Association in individual issues of RECREATION or in reprints, and in mimeographed form. Several parties, such as "Alphabet," "Birthday," "Our Times," "Detective," will be found in the new booklet, *Parties A to Z,* which may be secured for 75 cents.

If you are interested in material to help you in planning your parties we suggest you send for the list of the Association's publications on the subject — "A Few Publications on Social Recreation."

A Few Themes

Here are some party themes to stimulate your imagination:

Adventure — Travel, Around the World, Ship Ahoy, Shipboard, Shipwreck, Yachting,

Cruise, International, Bon Voyage, Nautical, Nationality Travelogue
Advertising
Airplane
All American
All Seasons—Autumn, Winter, Spring Fever, Summer, Midsummer Night
Alphabet
Animal
Anniversary—Silver, Gold, Tin, Wooden
Apache
Apple Gathering
April Fish
April Fools, All Fools Day, Foolishness Unlimited, Topsy-Turvy, Backwards, Ridiculous, Mad House, Upside Down, Much Ado About Nothing, Nonsense
April Shower
Apron and Necktie, Apron Antics
Around the Corner, Prosperity
Arty—Fun to Make Favors, Let's Make Things, Handcraft
Athletic, All American Sports
Attic
Auction
Automobile—Motor

Bachelor
Bachelor Maids, Old Maids, Sadie Hawkins
Balloon
Banquets—Dinner Table Fun
Barn Dance—Harvest Barn Dance, Berry, Cake, Husking Bee, Farmers' Social, Basket, Box Social, Chicken Social, Hay Ride, Pie
Baseball
Beach
Beginning of School
Bird
Birthday—Everybody's, Party of the Months
Blind Date
Book Lovers—Book, Fact and Fiction
Brides

Cafeteria
Camp—Campfire
Children's — Alice in Wonderland, Fairyland, Babes in Toyland, Storybook, Mother Goose, Cinderella, Old Folks (children dress up), Bubble, Balloon, Parents
Chinese—China Clipper
Circus
Class
College
Colonial—1776
Come and Get It
Comic Strip
Community — Amateur Hour, Nights of Fun
Country Fair or Carnival

Detective
Dinner at Eight

Down Argentine Way
Dramatic—Characters of Famous Plays, Theater, Thespian, Play Reading, Play Writing
Dutch

Egg
Election—Political, Political Bridge
Engagement
Eskimo
Exchange

False and True
Family—Family Album
Famous People—Books, Movies, Sweethearts, Couples
Farewell
Fashion Show
Fiesta—South American Way
Fishing
Flag
Flower
Foliage Festival
Folk Dance
Football
Friday—The Thirteenth, Thirteen
Futurama, 1978

Garden
Gay Nineties
Good Riddance, Going Away
Graduation
Gypsy

Gedge Harmon

May Day, with its old traditions, is an attractive theme for a party

Handcraft
Hard Times — Sack Tacky, Tacky, Poverty
Harvest Moon, Harvest Supper
Heart, Lovers' Quest
Hello Social
Historical
Hit or Miss
Hobby — Try-a-Hobby, Let's Make Things
Hobo
Hollywood
Horoscope, Zodiac, Astrology
House Warming
Hunting

Immigration
Indian
Indoor Picnic — Fireplace Supper
Intercollegiate Indoor Track Meet

Jack Frost — Winter Carnival, Ice Carnival, Silver Blades, January Games
Jazz Age
Jesters

Key Hole
Kitchen

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And Sunday, Too

The young people of Lancaster wanted something to do on Sundays after church services; something that would be in keeping with the traditional observance of the day, but still something that would be fun! So they called on the city's ministers to help in the planning. And they did!

Courtesy Lancaster, Pa., Y.W.C.A.

By GRANT D. BRANDON
Director of Recreation
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA, had a plethora of youth organizations. Things were humming along among the young people at a fast clip. The only trouble was they weren't always humming exactly in tune. Sometimes there were four or five activities to choose from. But at other times there just "wasn't anything to do." So the various groups got together, two youngsters and an adult advisor from each organization, for a bit of coordinating. They worked out a plan so that something would be cooking somewhere all the time from Monday through Saturday. The Co-ed Club, a newly organized group agreed to open their club Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. The Y.W.C.A., with their "Hang-Out," took charge of Tuesday evenings. The Triangle Club of the Y.M.C.A. and the Recreation Association became responsible for Thursday and Saturday. The Saturday night party was a community dance. Juke boxes and jitterbugging, penny fairs and amateur floor shows, cokes and chatter fell into a good pattern for spending the shank of a summer's day in pleasant company.

The only trouble was Sunday night. Nobody had any really good ideas about Sunday and something was needed and needed badly for that time. The Lancaster Youth Planning Commission appealed to the Ministerial Association and together the two groups developed a program for Sunday evenings. The Ministerial Association, through its chairman, appointed a special committee of three to meet with the Youth Commission and issued a general invitation to other ministers to come to the meeting. Sixteen pastors besides the committee attended the general meeting. It was an interesting session! There were a certain number of misunderstandings to be cleared away before churchmen and young people could even begin their planning. Many of the ministers were amazed that the youngsters actually wanted assistance in arranging a Sunday evening program and would hardly believe they were not particularly interested in dancing! So the ministers came to understand that the boys and girls were really seeking help in developing appropriate evening activities, and the teen-agers realized that their "spiritual pastors and masters" were not opposed to wholesome recreation on the Lord's day.

This was the way it came about that the young people of Lancaster found church buildings and grounds open to them for games and campfire talks and group singing topped off by simple refreshments. Every other Sunday beginning the second Sunday in July one or the other of the churches in Lancaster which had out-of-doors space that could be lighted was turned over to the youngsters from 9 P. M. until 10:30 P. M. Each program was planned by a committee. Accordingly

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What They Say About Recreation

"IF ONE DID NOT learn to enjoy play when a child, it is not too late at any age. The day has arrived when many people feel embarrassed when they do not know how to take part in some sport."—*Dr. Maude L. Etheredge.*

"Recreation, change, the pursuit of a hobby, and the cultivation of a taste for fine literature—each is as medicine to the mind, which in turn reflects upon the entire physical body."—*George Matthew Adams.*

"The constructive use of one's leisure is a necessary balance to a life of work. Its wise use contributes to one's health and happiness!"—From *Physical Fitness for Boys,* by *Miller, Bookwalter,* and *Schlafer.*

"An artist has been defined as one who brings order out of chaos, and art as the finest way of doing things."—*Chester G. Marsh.*

"Play expresses the child's relation to himself and his environment, and, without adequate opportunity for play, normal and satisfactory emotional development is not possible."—*Margaret Lowenfeld.*

"Music is the voice of civilization and we must not lose interest in the very things we are fighting to preserve."—*Dr. William Lyon Phelps.*

"Leisure at its best is of course time for 'doing.' It is a time for engaging in activities that are required, not to satisfy the necessities of life, but to satisfy those needs that arise from deep within us—in a longing for more complete living."—*Helen Pendergast.*

"Handicraft has healing powers. By its magic it can transport one from a troubled world to a realm of enchantment where nature heals in her own subtle way."—*Ellsworth Jaeger.*

"Since there is at the present time a general stirring of interest in American folk lore, let us take advantage of the situation and make organized efforts to preserve our cultural heritage as we are trying to preserve our forests, land and wildlife."—*Sarah Gertrude Knott.*

"Recreation is a mode of behavior, either individual or collective, which has its own drive and gives current satisfactions, and is not undertaken for any goal or purpose beyond itself."—*Martin N. Neumeyer.*

"There is something fundamentally satisfying about making something with your own hands."—From *Let's Have Fun at Home,* published by the *Community Recreation Association,* Richmond, Virginia.

"Photography is a hobby enjoyed by literally millions of people of all ages, nationalities, and both sexes. Among its followers are people of all walks of life, temperaments, and interests for whom the camera serves as a great common denominator."—*Lewis L. Robbins.*

"Taking the youth of the community from the alleys and street corners by providing them with playgrounds, reading rooms, game rooms, and other recreational activities furnishing an outlet for their exuberance is a duty imposed on all American citizens."—*Anthony Abbott.*

"Recreations in which more persons than one take part are far superior in this respect to those of a solitary nature."—*Fisher* and *Fisk* in *How to Live.*

"The drama is a medium through which America must inevitably express its highest ideals. When it can be used to get people to express themselves in order that they may build up a bigger and better community life, it will have performed a real service to society."—*Alfred G. Arvold.*

"We need a wide range of new and different skills. Without skills there is no savor in life."—From *Girl Scout Leader.*

"My definition of a hobby is what you would be doing if you didn't have to work for a living. A hobby represents a philosophy of life. It can be the thing that makes life worth living."—*Fred B. Barton* in *Music as a Hobby.*

"Play and art reflect the values of the civilizations that gave them birth, and the art is great art in proportion to the human rightness of these values."—*Ruth Chorpenning Norris.*

A Recreational Leadership Class in a Public High School

By HELEN MANLEY

THE INFLUENCE OF WAR was felt immediately upon all recreation work. The trained leaders were called into the armed forces and in the fields of recreation in the USO and Red Cross; women were working and leaving very young children to be cared for in recreation as well as in day-care centers. Leaders were needed by the dozens, and agencies had no way of filling the vacancies; those which were usually averse to volunteer and untrained assistants were clamoring for help. In the vicinity of St. Louis, eight hundred adult volunteers were trained in the spring of 1942; still the supply was not adequate for the demand. The solution seemed to be to step down the age of the assistants and to use high school students. It was realized, of course, that these students would need some training and that they would only be used as volunteers and under adult guidance.

In an article which appeared in the November 1943 issue of *The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, Miss Manley, who is associated with the public schools of University City, Missouri, tells how a high school in a suburb of St. Louis took steps to help meet the shortage in leaders by establishing a recreational leadership class. Through the courtesy of *The Journal* and of the author the article is reprinted here.

In University City, a suburb of St. Louis, the University City Senior High School was organizing its fall program with its first objective, "Winning the War." Meteorology, aeronautics, navigation, refresher mathematics, fundamentals of electricity, and five periods a week of physical education were in the offing. The Victory Corps program suggested community service as a phase of war work; so with this objective and the need for helpers in the field of recreation in mind, a course in recreational leadership was added to the roster.

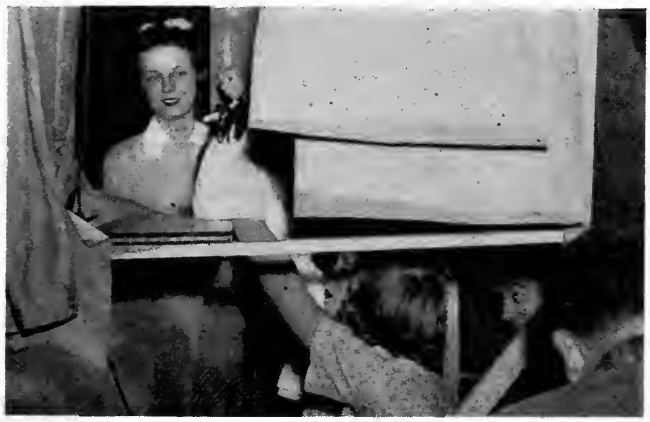
Organization and Purpose

The course was made a semester course, meeting five days a week. The students enrolling were told that in addition to this school time they would be required to give the equivalent of three hours service in community recreation. The State Department of Education was consulted; a half unit credit was given for this course as for a semester in English or mathematics. Juniors and seniors were eligible to take the course.

The purpose of the course was as follows:

1. To acquaint the students with the recreational facilities in the St. Louis area
2. To develop in these boys and girls a knowledge of the basic skills in forms of recreation that would not require techniques beyond their abilities, and the possibilities of the course
3. To give them theories and ideals of leadership
4. To give them opportunities to work in one of the recreational agencies on a volunteer basis
5. To help meet the demand for helpers in the field of recreation
6. To encourage in young people a realization of the need for recreation and recreational leaders in this vicinity

The handcrafts unit and the dramatics department joined forces to give a puppet show for the elementary school



General Procedure

The first class enrolled numbered twenty-seven: sixteen girls and eleven boys. The second class, which enrolled in February, 1943, was the maximum size and had sixteen girls and twenty boys. The class was organized and administered

There's square dancing, of course, in the social recreation program

through the physical education department, but other departments were invited to help in the teaching. Experts in the field of recreation in the St. Louis area were called upon to give talks and demonstrations, and frequent visits were made to the various agencies to see "recreation at work."

The course of study of the training was as follows:

A. THEORY (in relation to activity):
   1. Qualities of a leader
   2. Standards of leadership
   3. Characteristics (physical, mental, social) and interests of children at various age levels, adults
   4. Fundamentals of teaching activities
   5. Organization and administration of various recreation programs

B. GAMES:
   1. How to teach
   2. Kinds as to organization, and as to use
   3. Practice in playing and teaching games of all kinds for all age levels

C. RHYTHM:
   1. Group singing and practice in leading rounds, songs around campfire, motion songs
   2. Singing games, folk games, square dancing

D. PLANNING AND CONDUCTING PARTY PROGRAMS

E. STORYTELLING AND DRAMATICS

F. HANDICRAFT:
   1. Projects with limited cost — paper, wood, weaving, natural materials (shells, nuts, etc.)
   2. Puppetry—dramatics are tied in here with making puppets
   3. Making play games

G. NATURE STUDY AND CAMPING:
   1. Hikes, an overnight camping trip
   2. Planning outdoor activities for different age levels

H. COMMUNITY WORK.

The theory phase of the work consumed about one-fourth of the time, but was presented in connection with the activity. After discussing and reading about the qualities of a leader, and hearing those who were using volunteer leaders, telling them what they considered qualities of leadership, the class visited recreation centers and observed the personnel in action.

Teachers of children at different age levels in the elementary school across the street supplemented the class study of characteristics of children by talks and by showing these high school students the younger children in action. The pupils in the junior high school a block away were also observed in their play.

Members of the class not only learned the theory of how to teach games, the types to use on various occasions, and similar techniques, etc., but they practiced and learned these games themselves, took turns in teaching them to their group and then to the age levels at which they were appropriate. They learned techniques of officiating, planning tournaments, and then practiced in the elementary, junior and senior high schools.

This same procedure was used in other phases of the program. The handicraft unit was taught by a member of the high school physical education department who had had much experience in this field. The class made articles for the Red Cross, learned the use of salvage materials, made puppets and climaxed this unit jointly with the dramatics department by giving a puppet show for the elementary school. A member of the English department assisted with the storytelling teaching, and the elementary school children were very willing listeners.

Various recreation programs were planned and administered by the class. A party for the faculty of the school system was planned. The group consisted of about three hundred people. The class planned the entire program which consisted of mixers, square dancing, social dancing, games, and community singing. Mixers, community singing,

and square dancing had had a part in the teaching program and some study had been made of adult interests and characteristics. The music department and the teacher of dance had helped in the work.

Each class also planned an "All-School Party" (student enrollment was 1,000). The first class called their party a "Pep Shin-Dig"; they started an innovation of thus honoring the football squad. The boys' teams at this school are "Indians," so it was quite appropriate, though new, to have the varsity letters presented at a campfire. After a few Indian dances, cheers and shouts, the group went to the gymnasium for mixers, square dancing, and social dancing. The second class called their party a "Hick Hop"; the name suggests the type of party. In addition to the activities of the first party, there were floor shows, a slide, and a few carnival-type concessions.

The nature study and camping unit was taught by a leader who had had a background of scouting. The classes went on several different types of hikes, and an overnight camping trip. Many of these city youths had never been camping, never had slept in the open, and only knew outdoor cooking with a car full of equipment brought to a park oven which had the fire all laid. The class also had the experience of planning hikes for different age levels, and different available facilities.

Perhaps the most interesting and worth-while phase of the course was the community work. The Social Planning Council of Greater St. Louis interviewed scientifically each member of the class. Members of the Council talked to the class, explained the work of the Council and the work of the various agencies of the Council. This was supplemented by talks by representatives of agencies which were in need of volunteer help. Each pupil was placed in an agency according to his available time, his interests, and the community needs. Here the students worked at least an afternoon, an evening, or a Saturday morning each week under the guidance of the trained recreation leaders. Many students gave more than the required time, and others carried on the work after the class terminated. Instructors of this course kept in contact with the students' community work by visits to the agencies and by reports through the Social Planning Council. Each week, time was taken in class period at school to discuss the problems of the workers and to help them solve them. They would ask other members of the class what they did at their agency, and each student had a great deal of pride in belonging to a group. The boys and girls were helping in Jewish Welfare, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., H.A, Catholic Welfare, Boys' Clubs, orphanages, USO, and other private agencies.

A constant effort was made to make the class practical, and to give the members real experiences. Besides visiting and taking part in a great variety of recreational activities, each classroom quiz included some creative and emergency questions such as:

1. One hundred twelve-year-old children are gathered in the stadium for a play day. It rains. Plan a treasure hunt, using only the gymnasium and halls.

2. A Red Cross drive is being staged; your agency wishes to impress the patrons of this movement. In skeleton form, outline a little play for the group you are teaching (they were working with various age levels) to dramatize this.

3. Your recreation center is giving a St. Patrick's Day party for the early adolescent, 11-14. Work out the following:

(a) An invitation in jingle
(b) An appropriate mixing game
(c) An appropriate party game

The class is embryonic, and as time progresses, mistakes will be corrected. In a public school system, individuals will, of course, be in this class who have very little potential leadership. A willingness to serve and a loyalty to community welfare, how-

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A variety of types of hikes and an overnight camping trip were enjoyed

The Story of a Recreation Convert

THIS IS THE STORY of a convert — a recreation convert—and how his vigorous leadership in opposition to a public schools building program which incorporated many innovations in recreation backfired, by reason of that conversion, to give a municipality an athletic field comparable to the finest.

The story had its beginning nearly two decades ago, about the time the late John W. Bailey, the recreation convert, was inducted into office as Mayor of Battle Creek, Michigan, for the fourth time in May 1926.

John Bailey was a vigorous man. He was a man of determination; set in his ways; unswayed by public opinion or the trend of events. But he was an honest, conscientious public official who, once convinced of the error of his ways, could and would prosecute any move or undertaking with the same degree of enthusiasm and earnestness that previously had characterized his opposition.

John Bailey was from the old school. His views, particularly as regards recreation, followed the old order. His had been the youth of the typical American farm boy, who utilized the barn rafters as horizontal bars; straw stacks as mats and, of course, the "ole swimmin' hole" as a bathing beach. His father before him—and his father's father—had found fun no end with such homespun devices.

The rafter, the straw pile and the ole swimmin' hole had been recreation instruments aplenty — and costless, too—back there on the farm.

Little wonder, then, that newly-elected John W. Bailey had firm and well-established ideas of his own about the expenditure of large sums of public moneys for the "new-fangled physical education" ideas that just about that time were sweeping the country.

Battle Creek always had been a front-runner in any movement that had as a fundamental purpose the general health and welfare of its people. For years it had been known the world over as the "Health City."

So its civic and educational leaders had been quick to incorporate into their planning—school planning — instruments designed to prosecute a vigorous physical education program—swimming pools, gymnasiums and playgrounds.

An extensive school building program was being projected. These plans made liberal provision for recreation activities, indoor and out.

Right into the midst of the campaign for these improvements arrived Mayor-elect John W. Bailey, a vigorous opponent of what he scathingly catalogued "a wholesale effort to turn our splendid institutions of learning into instruments designed to serve a few passing whims and fancies of fanatical reformers."

John W. Bailey definitely was an "anti-recreationist"—and how!

Some fourteen years prior to that May day in 1926, another son of the soil had come out of the hills of Kentucky to work in the public school system of Battle Creek. Arch R. Flannery believed, heart and soul, in the advantages of a well-balanced recreation diet as a necessary and essential factor in any modern educational plan — just as vital in the new scheme of things as readin', 'riting, and 'rithmetic. His ideas took firm root in the new Battle Creek soil, too; they spread from school to school and from school to industry; from industry into the home. Soon he was pioneering a general public recreation program for the plant worker, the housewife.

Time passed, and recreation continued to grow and spread. Business and civic leaders, industrial heads, members of the clergy all became interested. So the Battle Creek Civic Recreation Association was born — in 1921, with membership open to every man, woman and child of the area—on the basis of a $1 annual fee. By the end of 1923 it was a flourishing, healthy organization of 1,000 paid-up members.

All money collected was diverted into the purchase of equipment and the conduct of tournaments, first basketball and then baseball. All leadership, direction and supervision continued on a voluntary basis.

In the spring of 1924 recreation had assumed such proportions and had become such a well-established, integral part of community life that leaders of the association went before the City Commission and, for the first time in the city's history, obtained an appropriation for recreation. It was only $1,000, but it was a start, thought the members.

Added to this governmental sum were the membership dues collected by the association, which by this time had set up rules governing organized play at basketball, baseball, tennis, golf, and other sports. All players were required to hold association memberships at the customary $1 per year fee to participate in the different events (one fee covered all events). Too, team entrance fees were fixed at $15 for baseball and $10 for basketball. Thus organization revenue attained proportions that permitted limited development of recreation facilities—the purchase of a piece of playground equipment here, the improvement of a baseball field there. There still were no paid employees.

Recreation continued to prosper, not only as a component part of the educational curriculum but as a vehicle of public welfare. The burdens devolving upon the few volunteers became increasingly heavy. So again, in the spring of 1925, recreation officials went before the City Commission and again an appropriation of $1,000 was set aside for the conduct of the civic program.

Came the spring of 1926 and a city election that seated John W. Bailey as Mayor, among other newly-elected members of the city governing body.

Recreation had become a new phase of governmental activity since John Bailey had completed his first three terms as Mayor of Battle Creek in the spring of 1915. But even before his induction into office he had become an outspoken opponent—a bitter foe—of the proposed school building program and the scheme to incorporate modern recreation facilities into those plans.

Nothing daunted, Arch Flannery made a first, a "feel-out" pilgrimage to the law office of John Bailey, well-steeled for the stern refusals he knew would greet his request for city recreation funds. He asked, not for $1,000, but for $2,000. When he emerged from the office ten minutes later with the Mayor's stinging rebuke ringing in his ears, he was convinced that here was a job to be done—a big job, one which would have to be approached tactfully.

As head of the school physical education department, he first gained the confidence of the Mayor's student sons. He personally supervised the boys at play and in athletics. They developed rapidly. Soon they were members of school athletic teams. One was particularly skillful. He won a place on the high school basketball team, and largely through his play the team gained district honors. It went to the state regional tournament in a near-by city.

The time was propitious, thought Mr. Flannery, to drive home his opening wedge.

After much urging he prevailed upon the Mayor to accompany him to the neighboring city to watch the tournament game. It was a torrid battle—one of those seesaw affairs where the lead changes hand every time a basket is made. Almost from the opening whistle the fans were on their feet; that is, most of the fans. His Honor, the Mayor of Battle Creek, maintained the dignity of his office and his personal decorum—for a time. But not for long. Before the first quarter had ended, Mayor Bailey literally was climbing over the backs of those in front of him. The circus seats sagged under his weight as he bounced up and down; his resounding shouts reverberated through the hall,

He was once opposed to recreation, but now Battle Creek has a recreation park which bears his name

drowning out all others. His whistles were louder than those of any undergraduate within earshot.

Thirty minutes later—when the game was over—Mayor Bailey slumped exhausted, speechless, to his seat.

That fall the Mayor's son won a place on the school football team. But school football fields in Battle Creek then were only makeshift affairs—an unused corner lot or an unsodded baseball field. These points were painstakingly, though of course casually, called to the Mayor's attention on an occasion when Mr. Flannery "chanced" to meet with him as he was heading home late one afternoon. In some manner the two eventually found themselves on the sidelines of one of those improvised practice gridirons, watching the boys go through their paces.

Hardly had they arrived when one of the boys—the Mayor's son it chanced to be—came limping off the field on an injured ankle, suffered when he stepped into one of the countless holes that pockmarked the weedy, rough surface.

"Why is it our boys have to play on such bone-breaking fields?" half-angrily the Mayor asked. The "campaign" was progressing—thanks to the fates.

Two weeks later, Mayor Bailey introduced before the city commission a resolution asking a $2,000 recreation appropriation. Some opposition developed. Mayor Bailey made an impassioned fifteen-minute plea. "It's little enough when so much is needed," he concluded. The motion carried.

The next night he went before the school board and expressed his wholehearted support for the school building program with its liberal provisions for playgrounds, swimming pools and gymnasiums.

For some months, even years, Recreation Director Flannery had envisioned a great civic recreation center on lands bordering the corporate limits of Battle Creek to the north—lands of sufficient acreage to permit the kind of development that would satisfy every recreation need of the city for many years to come. So he consulted his friend and neighbor, T. Clifton Shepherd, architect, landscape gardener, and recreation enthusiast—foremost disciple of his recreation center plan.

Two weeks later there appeared upon the Mayor's desk an architect's drawing of a modern recreation field, complete to the most minute detail.

"Boys, it certainly looks good, but I'm inclined to the belief that you boys are opportunists," the Mayor opined. "Where's the land—and the money—to come from?" he asked, evincing just a wee bit of interest.

That was enough to start an exhaustive search of the records in an effort to trace ownership of the wanted acres, abutting property acquired some years previously by the city and originally intended for water works development purposes.

Trail of that search led back to the office of Mayor John W. Bailey. The property in question was part and parcel of an estate being administered by John W. Bailey as an attorney-at-law, representing heirs of the late Chapey G. Convis. Mayor Bailey's interest in the project's development registered a substantial gain.

Next came a little question of finances. The plan embraced an estimated over-all outlay running into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Mayor Bailey was notoriously "Scotch" in his handling of public moneys; he would reluctantly lend his support to the expenditure of a dollar from the city treasury only if and when he could foresee eight or ten dollars of public good accruing therefrom. So a new frontal attack had to be developed for the recreation center project.

After consultation with some interested civic leaders, the following approach was suggested: The city, acquiring title to the desired acreage, would itself undertake its development piecemeal, if and when funds might become available.

The Mayor again received some visitors. "You fellows just won't take no for an answer," he countered after they had explained the purpose of their mission. Two weeks later, on motion of the Mayor, the City Commission unanimously voted to purchase the Convis estate acreage at a nominal sum. Street and Park Department heads were directed to dispatch all work-free men to the site to start grading operations.

Week by week, month by month, the work dragged tediously on. Much of the acreage adjoining the Battle Creek stream was marsh land and had to be drained and tilled before it could be built up to solid foundation. Elsewhere, it had to be cut down and leveled.

By early spring of 1929, the tract was ready for first permanent improvements. Three months later the first of six projected regulation baseball diamonds was opened for play. One of the biggest crowds in the history of sports in Battle Creek was on hand when the ball field was dedicated in

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Can You Entertain Yourself?

By LOUISE DUDLEY

IN A RECENT VOLUME on education an English schoolmaster posed three questions as the test of an educated person:

Can you entertain a new idea?

Can you entertain another person?

Can you entertain yourself?

If, he says, you can entertain a new idea, you are in pursuit of truth. If you can entertain another person, you are in pursuit of goodness. If you can entertain yourself, you are in pursuit of beauty.

Print by Gedge Harmon

Do you enjoy being alone, or do your good times depend on the people and things around you?

Can you entertain yourself? This is not an impertinent, frivolous question but a serious one. Can you? Can you have a good time without your friends and without a radio? Do you enjoy being alone? Do your good times depend on the people and things around you? Can you stay in control of yourself no matter what your environment, or are you only the victim of time and place and what they have to offer? These questions, which are important at all times, are even more important in wartime, for they stress the point that we need the Humanities to win the war, in spite of the frequently expressed opinion to the contrary.

You may ask, "What has poetry to do with the production line? Surely it is fantastic to claim that art and music have anything to do with an airplane factory. The sailor in the Fiji Islands, the soldier in Africa need food and ammunition, and our first duty is to supply them. Let the music and art and literature wait until the war is over. The values of the Humanities are, we admit, very choice and precious. They are among the values of democratic life, the values for which we are fighting, but they do not help us win the war. Therefore, we will put them away with our evening clothes and sport shoes, to get them out when more peaceful days return. Now we must strip for action. How can anyone claim that art and music, drama and literature are important, much less essential?"

Let us consider a few cases: Bob sailed this week from San Francisco, presumably on convoy duty. We don't know where he is going, but we suppose it is Australia. How long will the trip take? Three weeks? Five weeks? Or longer? He has never been to sea before. Probably the first trip will be exciting. But how about the second? Third? Fourth? Before long his duties will be largely a matter of routine. And the job will last a long time. There will be hours on hours when he is not even on duty. The same is true of the soldiers wherever they are, whether in Iceland, Ireland, or training camps in this country.

Nor is it just a problem for men in the armed forces. If anything, their situation is better than that of civilians. Not long ago I had a letter from a friend in a Canadian town where there are many defense industries. Most of the workers have brought their wives, and as my friend said, they have more money and live in greater ease than they have ever known in their lives, but they are cross, bored, and dissatisfied. They have looked only to the movies for enter-

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This article, originally published in the November 1943 issue of *The Journal of the National Education Association*, is reprinted by permission. The author is Head of the Department of Humanities at Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri.

Photo by Reynold E. Carlson

Photographing the Birds

By REYNOLD E. CARLSON
National Recreation Association

YOU'VE OFTEN wondered how some of those fine close-up shots of wild birds and mammals were made. They look as though the photographer had approached within a few feet, and you know how difficult it is for a person to get close to even the tame birds and mammals of our city parks. Probably these remarkable pictures were taken by placing the camera on a fixed support, pre-focusing it upon a likely spot, such as a perching limb or a feeding table, and tripping the shutter through some string or wire arrangement from a distant spot. Such a contrivance is not difficult to make. Time, patience, and some mechanical ingenuity will produce excellent pictures.

The first step in securing good pictures is to attract birds in such numbers as to assure reasonable probabilities of getting pictures at a given spot. Securing a visiting bird population requires regular feeding over an extended period of time. If food and water are consistently provided and cats kept away, certain birds will begin to make regular visits. After a period of weeks of feeding the observer learns what birds may be expected, where they perch while waiting for other birds to finishing feeding, and how they approach the feeding table or water. He may also determine desirable angles from which to photograph.

Once birds are coming regularly and their movement patterns are discovered, the camera may be placed and focused on a likely spot with the remote control attachment ready for pictures. In setting the camera it is well to consider the background. Bad backgrounds spoil the majority of otherwise good bird shots. If the feeding table is in sunshine and the background in shade, there will be a desirable contrasting dark background. Mottled backgrounds are generally bad and are the result of mixed sunlight and shade. A low angle may give a sky background, generally light in color. A yellow filter will soften the sky and give a better picture. Backgrounds may be blurred by setting the camera with a wide aperture and high speed. Such blurred backgrounds help focus attention on the bird, which after all should be the center of attention.

The simplest remote-control device is the extension cable release. These cables come in lengths of a few feet up to twenty-six feet. The longer cables are difficult to find and require a great deal of careful handling to prevent kinking. They are also rather expensive. Even the 26-foot cable is in some cases not sufficiently long so that the photographer can hide far enough from the camera.

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Speech Classes Are More Interesting Now!

By JUNE PERRYMAN
Coldwater High School
Coldwater, Michigan

There's a definite reason why the attendance at the speech classes at Coldwater High School has grown, and why the pupils are finding the courses not only interesting but good fun as well!

At a time when boys and girls are taking a very active part in campaigns of various kinds, and are becoming increasingly aware of their responsibility to their community, Miss Perryman's article has much to offer not only teachers but recreation workers seeking to develop leadership qualities in children.

"HEY, JOE, are you taking speech?"

"Yes, anything to get out of that world lit. course. Nothing could be as tough as that. Gonna join us, Bill?"

"No, I guess I might as well try world lit. It may be tough, but nothing's worse than sitting and listening to dumb speeches every day."

I couldn't help overhearing these remarks as I passed through the study hall to my room on registration day. I was a new teacher, not yet noticed by the student body. "So people are signing up for my course to get out of world literature," I thought. "And one boy has the nerve to say that he'd rather take world literature than any course as monotonous as speech!"

The rest of the morning my thoughts drifted back to that conversation, and I wondered what could be done in speech class to make it a challenge to the student and not a "cinch" course to the football team's "deadbeats." (It isn't a problem to be solved in one day, in one week, or even one month.)

The following day the classes met and I waited with apprehension for the first gathering of the speech class. Just as I had feared, I had the football team in full force! Out of twenty-five pupils, I had three in the class with average scholarship, and one with above average scholarship. That one was a speech defective and was the only one in the entire class who had enrolled in the speech class for the purpose of developing his speaking ability!

It is my firm conviction that speech cannot be taught adequately in a formal classroom. It cannot be learned from a textbook. In the average speech classroom the student is required to give speeches two, three, or more times a week. The audience seldom varies. In time, the class becomes indifferent, yes, bored, with every speaker. No wonder some boys and girls would rather take a tougher course than speech!

In my effort to put life into the course I have developed a program in which the first assignment is a gadget talk. Each boy and girl is asked to bring in some simple gadget to dismantle before the class as he talks on its use and construction. This assignment has a purpose. It serves to give the speaker something to do with his hands in his first formal audience contact. In most cases, the student is so concerned screwing or unscrewing the several parts of the gadget that he is totally unaware of his uneasiness before the class.

Sales Talks and Job Interviews

Another assignment that I make early in the year is a sales talk. The boys and girls are asked to bring in some little-known product. A member of the class acts as a housewife, and the other pupils take turns in approaching the customer and making the sale. This assignment encourages a discussion of manners both on the part of the housewife and canvasser. The members of the class soon learn that it is the agent who makes you want to buy the article rather than the agent who talks you into buying it who is the better salesman.

From sales talks we go into job interviews, for strange as it may seem to most individuals, selling himself to a prospective employer is not much different from selling a Hoover vacuum to a prospective bride! From job interviews we drift into business interviews and we discuss the various merchants and businessmen in town. The members of the class are asked to observe outstanding individuals in town, and in class we discuss the qualities that seem to contribute to their success in business. In almost every case, good speech is observed as an outstanding factor.

A Style Show

Each year the class organizes and stages a style show. Each local merchant is approached, told of the show, and asked to participate. He is also asked for suggestions regarding the management

of the show. One class member follows through each interview with the same merchant, and in the two or three weeks necessary for the organization of the style show the speech student interviews a businessman, sells an idea, associates the school with the local merchants, and exchanges ideas. The style show itself is carried on—that is, organized, planned, and prepared—by speech class members. Since all speech class members haven't perfect forms, it is usually necessary to solicit models.

Storytelling

There is another field open to the speech student. That is, the opportunities in storytelling. Almost every grade teacher welcomes a visiting storyteller. The Day Nursery has never refused a storyteller, and in most towns the library is more than willing to cooperate with the school in sponsoring a short storytelling hour. Last year, in our community, during the spring speech term we carried on a short storytelling hour every Saturday for a period of ten weeks as an experiment. The local paper publicized the idea and that first Saturday we met with three storytellers and nineteen of the most attentive little boys and girls to be found. The interest on the part of the youngsters was so great that our enrollment in the short storytelling hour steadily increased until on the last Saturday we met we had over forty youngsters present.

When we ran out of ideas for stories the children picked out books they wanted to hear. Chairs were arranged in a corner of the library and the little "tykes" sat on the edge of their chairs while the speech class student members told of "The Little Red Hen," "Bambi," "Little Black Sambo," and many other children's favorites. The average class member soon learns that animation enhances his story, and without any special coaching from the speech teacher learns to use the facial and body gestures so frequently "harped" on by speech teachers.

Not all boys and girls in the class were qualified to hold the interest of the type of group that assembled on Saturdays. To those speakers of less ability we extended the invitation to speak before kindergarten, and in first and second grade rooms in the presence of the grade teacher. These teachers were asked to grade the speaker on voice, animation, interest created, and other subjects covering the various mechanics of speech. Sometimes the grade teachers had the children criticize the storyteller. This helped the speech student immensely.

Talking for Victory!

Within the last two years there has been a new field of speech open to any alert teacher in our state. I refer to the Victory Speakers' Bureau under the direction of Paul Bagwell of Michigan State College. Last year, under the program set up by Michigan State College, the best students of the class were sent out before the Rotarians, Kiwanis Club, church organizations, and the many other social and civic organizations of our small town. These boys and girls discussed everything from air raid warden activities to victory gardens. The clubs stated the topics they wished discussed, the school furnished the speakers, and the students did the rest.

Today there is more to talk about than there has been in any ten-year period. Any boy or girl who says he can't find anything to talk about of interest to the public is either confessing his ignorance of current events or his laziness! Clubs, churches, classrooms and all organizations today are anxious to have the support of youth in bond drives, salvage drives, and every other campaign. A good speaker is more important than any other factor in the success of such drives.

We Organize a Speech Rally

A year ago, in the spring, we received word from the State Office of Civilian Defense that Washington was interested in trying an experiment in a speech rally. Two towns in the state were asked to conduct the experimental rally. The success of these rallies would determine whether or not Washington would sponsor a nation-wide program. In cooperation with the Coldwater Office of Civilian Defense, the high school organized and conducted the speech rally. Members of the speech class engaged as guest speakers the local chief air raid warden, head of the Farm Bureau, county home extension agent, and the chairman of the rally. We engaged a speaker from the Chicago Office of Civilian Defense as guest speaker, and obtained the use of the county building and adjacent park. The school granted the class members permission to use the public address system on the porch of the county building, and from one of the teachers we secured a fifty-foot extension which we used to illuminate the city park and the courthouse front steps. The band

(Continued on page 388)

New York City After the War

Postwar plans which are now being made for the parks, parkways, and other public works of New York City are outlined by Robert Moses in the December issue of *The American City*. Mr. Moses speaks not only as head of the Department of Parks, but as a member of the state park system and as head of the Triborough Bridge Authority. We quote extracts telling of plans for recreational developments.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK has a realistic program of public work for postwar construction. Money has been provided in our capital budget for design. Executives, engineers, architects, and draftsmen are actually making contract drawings and specifications. Adequate safeguards have been provided to insure a coordinated program of useful and necessary works. By the middle of 1944, projects having a total estimated construction of over $700,000,000 will be completely designed and ready for advertising.

The Park Department projects range in size from large park and parkway construction jobs costing several million dollars to small park buildings and reconstruction of park paths costing only a few thousands. Their estimated cost aggregates $115,093,545. All of these projects are necessary parts of a carefully planned program of park and parkway expansion and rehabilitation, coordinated with other arterial improvements in the metropolitan area, and with housing, school, and other construction involving recreation in the broadest sense of that word.

The Park Department's Philosophy

Let me state briefly the philosophy of the New York City Park Department as to postwar expansion. We do not believe in revolution. The city is not going to be torn up and rebuilt on a decentralized satellite or other academic theory. Therefore we do not have to wait for the painting of the new, big, over-all picture constantly referred to by revolutionary planners. We believe that the older, run-down sections of the city will be rebuilt. We believe that there will be a much slower development of outlying lands within the city and its suburbs, that subway extensions will be limited, and that efforts will be directed to making what we have inherited more livable and attractive—as against abandoning it, letting trade and population drift away and continuing a trend toward suburban dormitory living and commuting. We believe in limited objectives — that is, in reclaiming, rounding out, expanding and developing what we have, in seeing to it that recreation is provided for in arterial, housing, school, sanitation, and other construction, and not regarded as an afterthought. Finally, we believe in adding new small parks and playgrounds in neglected sections.

We anticipate greatly increased interest in and demand for public recreation after the war. This demand will come from many sources, including the men now in the armed services who have become accustomed to strenuous exercise and outdoor life. People now working in war industries and otherwise associated with war work, who have very little leisure time, will require more recreation. The city park system must provide for their needs.

Beaches and Pools

With the completion of various sewage-disposal plants, most of the waters surrounding the city will be clean enough for swimming, boating, and fishing. In Jamaica Bay, a great natural recreation area is being reclaimed. At Canarsie, a one-mile beach has been designed. In the Bronx at Ferry Point Park, and in Queens at Clearview Park, similar beaches with all types of recreation areas will be built. Since it is impossible to provide bathing beaches for all parts of the city, swimming pools have been designed for Bronx Park and for Dyer Beach Park in Brooklyn. In addition, at Jacob Riis Park Beach a pool is to be built adjacent to the bathhouse.

Wherever possible, some park use of lands acquired for sewage-disposal plants is agreed on with the Department of Public Works. At Owl's Head Park in Brooklyn, the deck over the tanks will be used for park and playground purposes. At the Tallman's Island plant in Queens, previously constructed, we now operate a 12-acre park built under similar circumstances.

The use of small streets and parks between 52nd and 58th Streets along the East River Drive has

(Continued on page 389)

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

ANDREWS, Roy Chapman. "Under a Lucky Star." An autobiography. The Viking Press. New York. 1943. 300 pp. $3. "I wanted to be an explorer and naturalist so passionately that anything else as a life work just never entered my mind."

Bears. "The Biggest Bear on Earth," by Harold McCracken. Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York. 114 pp. illus. $2. A book for young people.

Biography. "Those Were the Days: Tales of a Long Life," by Edward Ringwood Hewitt. Duell, Sloan & Pearce, New York. 318 pp. $3. Peter Cooper, founder of Cooper Union; Sir Hiram Maxim; the first J. P. Morgan; Buffalo Bill; Andrew Carnegie.

Birds. "A Guide to Bird Watching," by Joseph J. Hickey. Oxford University Press, New York. 262 pp. illus. $3.50.

Chestnuts. There is a small grove of chestnut trees near Rosati, Missouri, without trace of the blight, according to C. B. Michelson, agricultural director of the Frisco Railway. The chestnuts sold for twenty-five cents a pound.

Eskimo. "Beyond the Clapping Mountains," by Charles E. Gillham. Macmillan, New York. 1943. 134 pp. $1.50. Animal folk stories for children.

"*Farm People* and the Land After the War" may be secured from the National Planning Association, 800 21st Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Fish. "Food from the Sea: Fish and Shellfish of New England," by Rachel L. Carlson. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Conservation Bulletin 33. 74 pp. illus. Ten cents.

"*Garden Islands of the Great East,*" by David Fairchild. Collecting seeds from the Philippines and Netherland India in the junk "Cheng Ho." Scribner's, New York. 239 pp. illus. $3.75.

"*Grasshopper* Book," by Wilfrid S. Bronson. Harcourt, Brace Company, New York. 1943. 127 pp. $1.75. Suited to children.

Malaria. "This Is Ann—She's Dying to Meet You." 32 page booklet on the anopheles mosquito. War Department Liaison, U. S. Office of Education, Washington 25, D. C.

"*Negro Farmers* in Wartime." U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1943. 13 pp. illus. (The Farmer and the War—6.) Five cents.

Poultry. "Modern Poultry Farming." Macmillan Company, New York. $4.

"*Reptiles* of Minnesota," by W. J. Breckenridge. Minnesota Department of Conservation, State Office Building, St. Paul 1, Minnesota. Conservation Bulletin 3, 24 pp. illus.

"*Salamanders,* Handbook of," by Sherman C. Bishop. Comstock, Ithaca, New York. 555 pp. illus. $5.

"*Science,* American Women of," by Edna Yost. Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York. 1943. 232 pp. $2. Biography of twelve women.

"*Science* Excursions into the Community," by George E. Pitluga. Columbia University Press, New York. 154 pp. $1.75. A handbook for leaders.

"*Science* at War," by George W. Gray. Harper, New York. 296 pp. $3.

"*Spiritual* in life is a lot of things. When the leader stops in the midst of the field hike to have members listen to the tanager singing out his heart — when club members treat their animals with kindness — when they lay out nature trails — when they plant their gardens and dig in the brown earth—when the club leader points out the beauty of the wayside flowers."—*Dr. C. B. Smith* in *National 4-H Club News.*

"I believe we are on the wrong trail, seeking to grow through many human contacts, multifarious organizations, while what we need most of all is to sit down somewhere alone, in God's first temples most certainly, and gain a true sense of values while communing with kindly, soft-spoken Mother Nature. Come, take a hike into the winter woods and discover what a wonderful teacher she is."—*O. Warren Smith* in *Musings of an Angler.*

"*Taxidermy,*" by L. L. Pray. Macmillan, New York. 91 pp. illus. $1.49. Manual for the amateur.

"*Waterfowl* in Iowa," by J. W. and M. R. Musgrove. State Conservation Commission, Des Moines, Iowa. 1943. 122 pp. 8 color plates. $1.

WORLD AT PLAY

Photo by Gordon K. Smith, Manhasset, L. I.

Manhasset Sponsors Pet Show

More than 2,000 people were on hand to view the 300 entries in the first annual pet show held last spring in Manhasset, Long Island. Sponsored by the Community Recreation Commission in the town's Memorial Field, the pet show included dogs, snakes, baby goats, cats, turtles, a baby alligator, and ducks—just like the one pictured above being fed by a young lady at the show. Prizes and ribbons were awarded on the basis of "the most interesting animal," "the animal who could perform the most tricks," etc.

"Cultural Service Cars" at the Russian Front

"Cultural Service Cars" are a familiar feature of life on the Soviet front. The crew of each car includes the "manager," a lecturer, cinema operator, and driver. The equipment consists of a traveling motion picture outfit, a varied stock of films, a victrola with a loudspeaker, and a large selection of records. One member of each crew is a skilled photographer who takes pictures of outstanding soldiers as the car tours the front-line zone.

The company librarians circulate books at all stops while the chief of the car arranges a photo display and distributes leaflets. Films and lectures on the international situation, on home affairs, or on the situation at the front are featured. —From the *A.L.A. Bulletin.*

Sterling Field—A Living War Memorial

The Department of Recreation reports that Sterling Field was the name officially given by the Town Council of West Hartford, Connecticut, to the new athletic field adjacent to the Charter Oak School. This field was named in honor of the late Lieutenant Gordon H. Sterling, Jr., whose plane was shot down at Pearl Harbor. Lieutenant Sterling was the first West Hartford boy to be killed in this war.

Philadelphia Offers Postwar Suggestions

When *The Philadelphia Inquirer* asked the average citizen for his ideas of postwar improvements, thousands of letters poured into the newspaper's office. High on the list of suggestions were better water supply and sewage disposal, more street signs and lights, cleaner streets, improved train service, a city college, and more playgrounds. The *Inquirer* offered $10 for each of the six to eight letters a day printed over a period of two weeks.

Living Memorials This Time

In an article under this title in the March-April 1944 issue of *The Conservation Volunteer,* official bulletin of the Minnesota Department of Conservation, Richard J. Dorer makes a plea for well-supervised forests as living memorials. To quote from his article:

"Under the management of competent foresters, these living patches of green soon would dot the countryside. As growth proceeded, erosion would

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be arrested and the residue of vegetation would coat the forest's floor as the initial step in the long process of rebuilding priceless top soil. Wildlife species, which found the new habitat to their liking, would reappear. And, eventually, each of these areas would become an outdoor recreational and educational center, with unlimited opportunities for camping, tramping and exploring the wonders of Nature away from the humdrum of industry and the routine tasks of everyday life."

Second Drama Contest Announced—In the July issue of RECREATION we carried a note about the contest conducted by the National Thespian Society for the best papers outlining a postwar program for the educational theater for children and young people. The Society also announces a contest for the ten best original one-act plays for young people which strengthen and preserve the democratic way of life. This contest will end January 1, 1945. Further information may be secured from the National Thespian Society, College Hill Station, Cincinnati 24, Ohio.

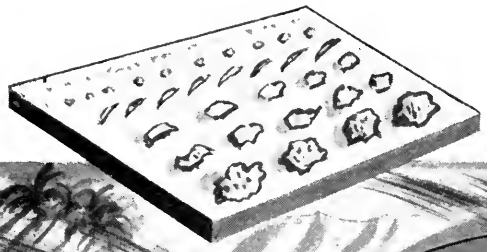
Newburgh Lions Club a Friend of Recreation—For twenty years the Lions Club of Newburgh, New York, has been active in providing community recreation facilities and services. In 1923, the year it was organized, it started a project for the establishment of a playground in the north end section of the city. Since then there have followed a number of other projects including the Annie Delano Hitch Memorial Swimming Pool, a park shelter house, sled slide and a skaters' field house. At present the Club is raising funds to help in the acquisition of additional land for Algonquin Park. The projects on which the Lions Club cooperated have an estimated capital value of $100,000, of which the Club raised and contributed about $40,000.

Alton Pays Tribute — The Alton, Illinois, Recreation Commission paid special tribute last spring to Lewis R. Mohler, one of its members. Mr. Mohler, who has been a member of the Recreation Commission for eight years, has never missed one of its meetings. At one time he drove 125 miles to get back to the city to be sure to be present at a meeting.

The members of the Alton Commission have a proud record of the number of years of continuous service. One member has served continuously for thirteen years; another for eleven; and a third for ten. Mr. Mohler is next, with eight years of service; the newest member having served for a three year period.

High School Youth Diagnoses Itself — The Director of Religious Education of a Denver, Colorado, church quizzed the high school youth of his church one Sunday morning to determine in what way conditions at their schools are different than they were a year ago. The youth of one school said there is more dating as there is more money for dates and youth feel older; much more smoking and drinking, on and off school grounds, because of a desire to show off, to copy older youth, and because of a change in the community itself due to war salaries; much foolish spending as many previously never had any money; and "getting away with murder" in class and study hours. Others corroborated these statements, the students of only one school testifying that the changes were slight.

Adaptation to Community Needs—Several studies have been made of the building practices that have been followed with reference to community use of school buildings. All types of buildings included in the Postwar Building Program



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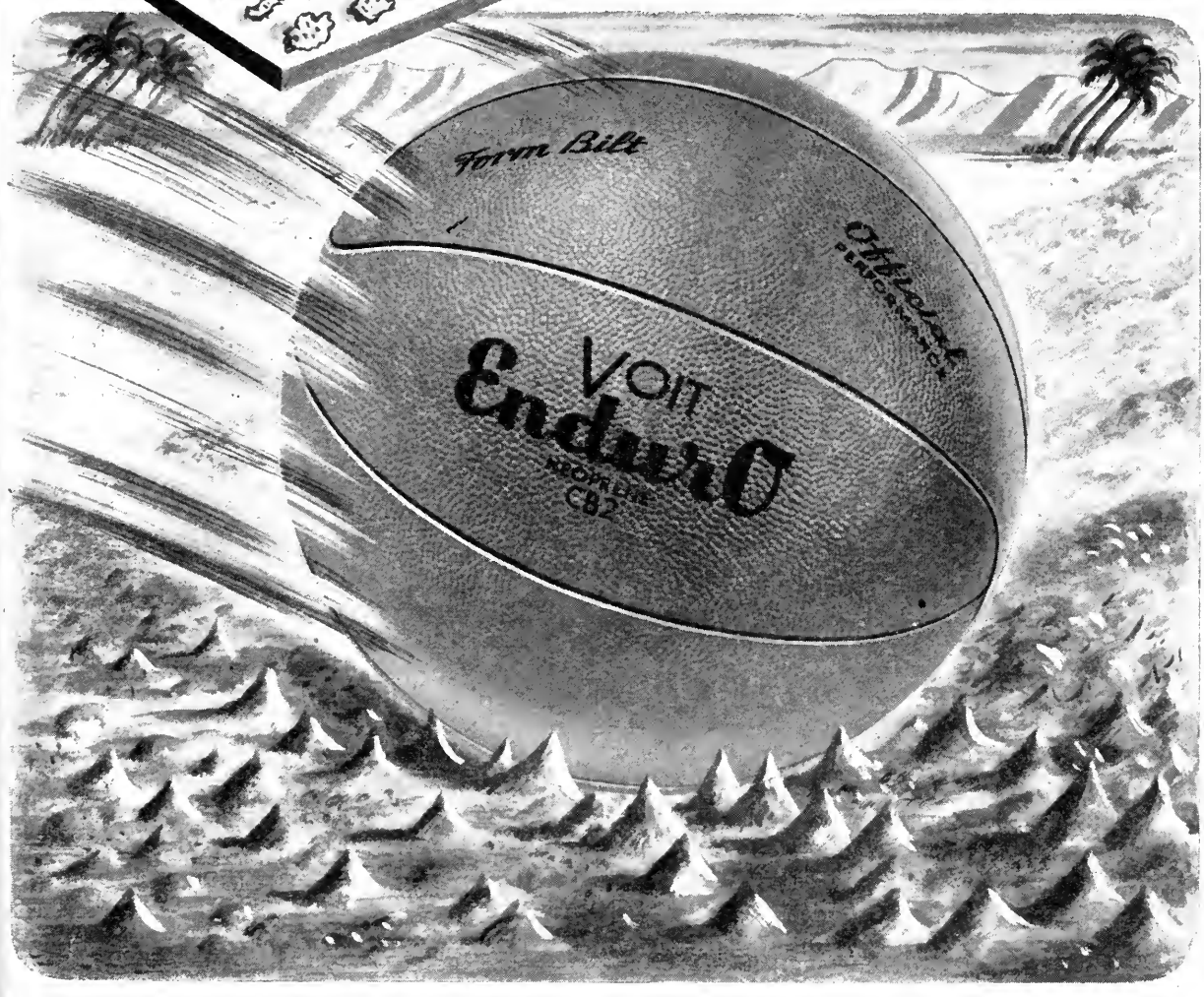

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are now being planned with great emphasis upon the contribution which the school building can make to community life in general. Auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries and other special rooms are being located and so planned that they may serve the community outside of the regular day school hours and so that they may be cut off for heating and lighting service without necessitating serving the entire building at one time. — From *All the Children,* 44th Report of the Superintendent of Schools, New York City.

Kewanee, Illinois, Votes Special Recreation Tax — By a vote of 3½ to 1, the citizens of Kewanee, Illinois, voted a special recreation tax of one mill submitted to the voters by the Kewanee Park District. J. J. Graham, President of the Park District, expressed the District's satisfaction at the result of the election, particularly as it was held in March when income taxes were due and at about the time that local personal and real estate taxes had to be paid.

Recreation Budget Increased in Decatur — Decatur, Illinois, in the last ten years has increased its recreation budget from $3,000 to $40,000. H. Ray Myers, speaking at an Association of Commerce anniversary dinner last spring, predicted that the budget in the next decade would increase to $300,000. He pointed out that the city needs four major playfields, ten indoor centers and twelve lighted playgrounds.

American Education Week

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK will be celebrated this year from November 5-11, 1944. "Education for New Tasks" will be the general theme of the week with the following daily topics: Building Worldwide Brotherhood; Winning the War; Improving Schools for Tomorrow; Developing an Enduring Peace; Preparing for the New Technology; Educating All the People; and Bettering Community Life.

The National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C., has prepared materials to assist in the observance of the week. These include a poster, leaflets, a sticker, a manual, plays, a movie trailer, radio scripts, newspaper advertising mats, and other helps.

West Hartford Outing Club — Taking advantage of extended recreation facilities offered in the town, citizens of West Hartford, Connecticut, recently formed an Outing Club whose purpose it is to promote all outdoor activities and to provide its members with pleasant, healthy, social relationships throughout the year. The Club is open to any resident of West Hartford and has three types of memberships: family, senior, and junior. During the winter the members are especially interested in skiing and skating.

Secretary for the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation —Dr. Ben W. Miller of the University of Indiana has been appointed Executive-Secretary of the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Dr. Miller began his work with the Association, which is a department of the National Education Association, on December 15, 1943.

With the Armed Forces—Somewhere in the Pacific—"You'd be interested in their recreation: the officers are well taken care of by their

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Highland Park's Citizenship Bureau

SINCE 1925, HIGHLAND PARK, Michigan, has maintained an American Citizenship Bureau with a director and a number of part-time teachers of English and citizenship. The purpose of the Bureau has been "to help with naturalization and immigration problems; to prepare the student for passing a naturalization examination by giving the necessary knowledge of history and principles of government; to promote growth in attitude which will lead the student to become a responsible citizen in his community; and to encourage a desire to work closely and harmoniously with all nationalities." The Bureau is financed and administered by the Recreation Commission which carries an item of $6,200 in its budget for this purpose.

In the early days of the Bureau, when foreign-born women hesitated to attend classes elsewhere, many of the classes were held in the homes. At the present time the Bureau conducts twenty classes, so timed that all work shifts are served. Many class members do volunteer work in the office, thus demonstrating their community interest. The Bureau edits and prepares its own loose-leaf citizenship manual used in the classes. Since its organization the Bureau has assisted more than 13,000 to become citizens and has honored from 700 to 1,200 new citizens at special celebrations each year.

In 1930, the Bureau organized the Citizenship School Association from graduates of the classes. From a small beginning membership has now grown to more than 500 individuals representing 42 nations.

The objectives of the Association are:

"To promote citizenship and continuing adult education; to unite women of all nationalities in a close bond of friendship and understanding; and to develop mutual improvement."

The Association meets monthly, is governed by a constitution, and makes annual pilgrimages to points of interest such as the Capitol in Washington, D. C., and other places of interest. Members conduct their own programs, have their own drama group, and at each meeting honor all women members of the class who have passed their examinations. The Association is largely responsible for recruiting students and helps finance the annual "I Am an American Day" celebration. The organization belongs to the National Council of

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Naturalization and Citizenship, and is affiliated with the American Red Cross, supporting the many interests of these organizations. Each year it sponsors the annual bazaar, the proceeds of which this year were given to the War Chest. Members are urged to enroll in other adult classes after becoming citizens.

The Recreation Commission, Daughters of the American Revolution, Parent-Teacher Association, and the Highland Park Woman's Club are closely affiliated with the Citizenship School Association. Each organization furnishes one program during the year and attends all the others.

WITH THE ARMED FORCES

(Continued from page 378)

club and a swimming beach with a couple of tennis courts. The men have an excellent park where there is swimming and boxing, baseball, volley ball, tennis, benches and breezes—also ice cream and hot dogs. The boys like it all right and it's good for them. The sports aren't organized—the facilities are there and it's left on an intra- or intership basis. This is the top we've hit in recreation. The bottom, of course, is the nothing provided at some places, although there's usually a ball field."

Hospitality for Mexican Workers — With hundreds of Mexican nationals returning to the Rocky Mountain region to help relieve the agricultural labor shortage, scores of rural communities have outlined hospitality programs. In many places special recreation centers, church services, Spanish speaking movies, and clubs have been organized to improve the religious and recreational opportunities of visiting Mexicans.—From *Rocky Mountain Inter-American News.*

Clarence Arthur Perry

On September 5, Clarence Arthur Perry died at seventy-two years of age after thirty-five years of close relation to the national recreation movement. In 1909 he became Associate Director of Recreation for the Russell Sage Foundation, working closely for nearly thirty years with Lee F. Hanmer. His book, *Wider Use of the School Plant,* published in 1910, and his later writings on the use of schools as community centers, had a very great influence throughout the United States. His monographs, *The Neighborhood Unit,* published in 1929, *The Rebuilding of Blighted Areas,* 1933, *Housing for the Machine Age,* 1939, all had a distinct influence in the planning field. Mr. Perry particularly emphasized the neighborhood as a planning unit. His keen interest in community drama was indicated in his book, *The Work of the Little Theatres.*

During all the years from 1909 on, Clarence Arthur Perry worked in close cooperation with the National Recreation Association, attending Recreation Congress gatherings, serving on committees and giving his support to the national recreation program. His going is a very distinct loss to the recreation profession in the United States.

Music Week Observance—Among the cities observing Music Week this year were Alton, Illinois, and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where the municipal recreation departments sponsored the observ-

ance and conducted a program which reached community groups of all kinds.

In Alton, the Grand Theatre, a local movie house, throughout the week threw songs on the screen with arrows indicating the times when men and when women were to sing and which side of the house was to do the singing. This aroused much interest, and the manager of the theatre was very much pleased with the enjoyment derived by the audience from the singing.

Duluth Provides Fishing Opportunities — The Park Department of Duluth, Minnesota, with the cooperation of the Minnesota State Conservation Department, has continued to stock local streams and ponds, with trout, bass, perch and other fish, so as to provide fishing opportunities for residents of Duluth right within the limits of their own community. In this connection, a guide map was printed and widely distributed showing the location of stocked waters.

West Hartford Outing Club — Taking advantage of extended recreation facilities offered in the town, citizens of West Hartford, Connecticut, recently formed an Outing Club whose purpose it is to promote all outdoor activities and to provide its members with pleasant, healthy, social relationships throughout the year. The Club is open to any resident of West Hartford and has three types of memberships: family, senior, and junior. During the winter the members are especially interested in skiing and skating.

A Harvest Salmagundi

(Continued from page 348)

girl whose name is next on his list. In this way each man has a partner with as little embarrassment and loss of time as possible.

Hum It. Duplicate slips containing the names of familiar tunes are handed out to men and girls. Each player must locate his partner by humming his tune until he finds a partner who is humming the same tune.

Affinities. Prepare a number of affinities, both persons and objects; give one half to the ladies, the other to the men, (Adam and Eve, Anthony and Cleopatra, Jack and Jill, Mutt and Jeff, salt and pepper, bread and butter).

Gym Mats
National Jim-Flex safety mats are used the country over by leading high schools, colleges, YMCA's, and camps because they have proven their worth. Built by experienced workmen from carefully selected materials and designed by a staff of outstanding experts such as John J. Walsh, famous University of Wisconsin boxing coach.
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No Hits, No Runs, Plenty Errors!

(Continued from page 355)

vided only your health is good, you can afford to just plain "wallow" in old age and an unrestricted play time.

Many members of the Club have been outstanding in their earlier years. Most of them still retain their keen mentality and are vitally interested in all current affairs. Every trade, business, profession, fad, or calling known to humanity is represented on the roster. Men and women are about equally divided. There are about twenty each winter between the ages of 95 and 100. This season two of them have passed the century mark! They represent wide differences of opinion too! One centenarian attributes his long life to moderate use of liquor. Another boasts that he has never tasted the stuff in all his life! Use of tobacco is another bone of contention. They agree on one thing, however: "If you wish to live to 100 you must exercise moderation in everything you do. We have proved this in our famous organization. No matter how many years old the almanac says you are, with spring in your heart it's not how old you *are* but *how* you are old that counts."

The Community School vs. Community Recreation

(Continued from page 342)

evening as he does for the traditional "educational" program which for decades was regarded as his major field. The board of education budget during the past two years has annually included approximately $310,000 to provide for the recreation needs of the youth of Newark.

During the past year, New York and Philadelphia papers have praised the Newark program, both in news and editorial columns. The November, 1943, issue of *Ladies Home Journal* devoted a special story to the effectiveness of the Newark program in meeting the challenge of juvenile delinquency. The Columbia University survey of the Newark school system in 1942 evaluated the recreation program in most favorable terms, particularly with reference to teacher preparation, basic philosophy, organizational pattern, and the development of community understanding and support.

And Sunday, Too

(Continued from page 361)

each was somewhat different from the other. All were simple. Volleyball, aerial darts, or modified badminton, circle games, campfire talks, group singing, a radio program concluding with songs like "Follow the Gleam," and a closing prayer or benediction sent everyone home with a feeling of good fellowship and well-being. The boys and girls chipped in to pay for the refreshments.

These Sunday evenings have been so successful that they will probably be continued through the fall and winter. The Youth Planning Commission has proved that recreation day-by-day can be arranged if you make up your mind to it. And the Ministerial Association has a higher opinion of young people than it did a year ago.

Recreation at Sunrise

(Continued from page 352)

too, is looking forward to presenting a series of plays.

Gone into the limbo of forgotten unpleasantness are the days when in all Stratford only sleepy Joe and the milkman were on hand to cheer the swing-shifters as they came out of the plant gates at 5 A. M. Now there are for them many pleasant places where they may "walk abroad and recreate themselves."

Town, Gown, and Fun, Incorporated

(Continued from page 346)

hundred were in the reading group the second summer, and the number receiving certificates jumped to 365.

Who are some of the voluntary donors who make possible this Lawrence program of community recreation? The entire $400 which began the program in the summer of 1940 was contributed by the American Association of University Women through the Children's Theater funds. In 1941 the Parent-Teacher Council joined as co-sponsors. The Board of Education, since the early days of the program, has made a solid financial contribution, in addition to making schools and playgrounds available. This year the Board of Education contribution amounted to $800. Individuals and organizations from all over the city make donations, big or little, in response to letters sent out by the Recreation Council.

Recreation in Lawrence is city-wide. As part of last summer's recreation program there was a series of neighborhood family fun nights in the six different playground districts. Playground children brought their parents. During last winter there was a special recreation evening at one of the schools for the twenty to thirty Mexican families in the city. The grand finale in South Park for the entire playground program last year brought in many new residents of Lawrence.

Thus, through excellent community organization, through the pooling of all talent—town as well as gown—Lawrence, Kansas, offers recreation to three groups:

(1) Since 1940, a six weeks' summer program of organized playground recreation

(2) Since last winter, with funds furnished by the Business and Professional Women's Club, P.T.A. Council, and individuals and through the active help of interested parents, a teen age dance every Friday night

(3) Through funds from the Community Chest and administration of a Community Service League which includes representatives from all churches, clubs, and even the City Council, a recreation program for servicemen without any outside help.

All in all, it's one of the best stories of all-out volunteer effort you could imagine. Cities which have yet to work out plans for organized public recreation should be encouraged by what Lawrence has accomplished. While the University has made available extra talent, and through its cooperation, has made available extra recreational facilities, any city has an unbelievable fund of talent going un-

used. Voluntary help and service, plus the unflagging enthusiasm of a few interested leaders, could make possible the achievement of Lawrence anywhere.

Living Marionettes Take a Bow

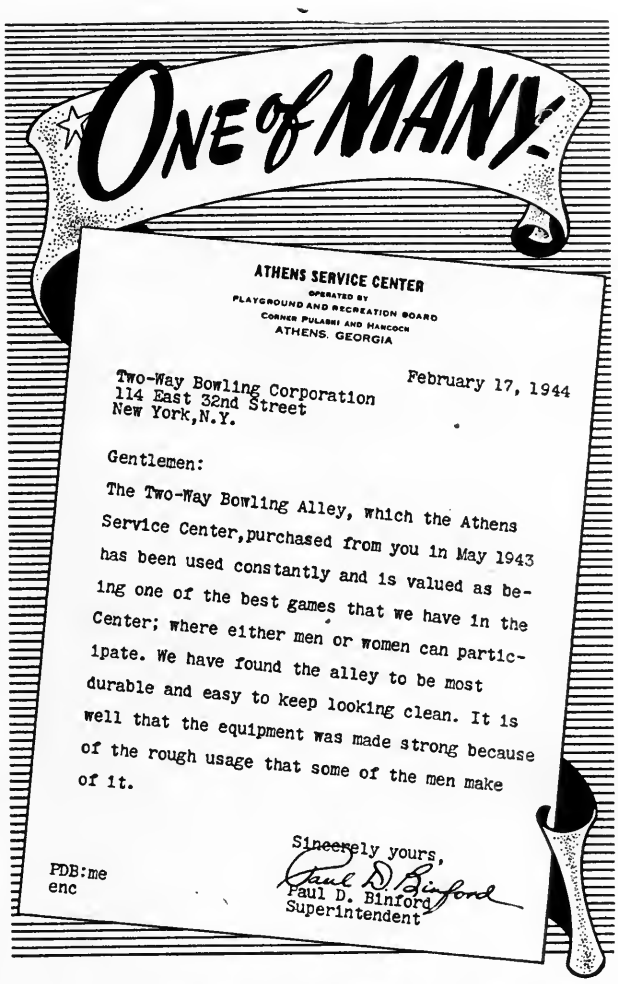
(Continued from page 357)

the marionette show is there, but the audience is much less "squirmy." Furthermore, making a marionette takes valuable time and supervision that might better be put, for our purposes, into the actual crafts of acting. The double cast has many advantages and the correlating between voice and physical interpretation motivates good speech habits.

Little equipment is needed for the show. Costumes, set pieces, a few properties will serve to create the necessary illusion. A clothes hanger with cords tied to the actor's arms, legs, and head is the control. The strings should be large enough to be visible. Ideally they should be hot elastic so that the slack from marionette's motions is automatically taken up. The manipulator will have less to do! In some plays, where a deeper stage is needed, the clothes hanger can be lengthened by a stick.

There are a few special problems that must be kept in mind when a live marionette show is to be produced. It takes longer to hold tryouts since two people must be selected for each character. The first rehearsal is even more important than in straight playing because both voice and pantomimist must find their character motivation. Each part of a character team should have a complete script, and each should understand the play from the point of view of the person he is going to portray. The marionette should not be put on the strings too soon because it is possible that mechanical problems will delay his first and fundamental job of interpretation and creation of character. When both voice and puppet can work without scripts is time enough to complete the job of stringing. So that the marionette and his voice may each understand the other's problem, the parts should be reversed during some of the earlier rehearsals and after the stringing has been completed.

Special attention should be given to the make-up so that the artificial quality of marionettes is retained. Exaggerated silhouette and vivid colors used in costuming will capture the same illusion and help the actor feel less like himself and more like the stylized doll he is supposed to be.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Sincerely yours,
Paul D. Binford
Paul D. Binford
Superintendent
PDB:me
enc

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND RECREATION
1201 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Americans at Play in the Far North

(Continued from page 358)

semaphore, electricity, and radio fundamentals were attended chiefly by girls! On Tuesday and Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 instruction in wood carving was available to anyone over ten years old. On Monday and Wednesday mornings in July (when the weather was especially bad) art classes were held under a local instructor.

The center was open every afternoon and evening for dancing and games. It was christened the "Polar Bear Den" for these occasions. From 2 to 5 in the afternoon the smaller children took over for games and story hour. After dinner the teen-agers came in for dancing and more grown-up games. During the summer 185 children and 280 teen-agers used the club.

This would seem a pretty full program for a town the size of Ketchikan. The Ketchikan Recreational Council doesn't think so. They are planning to expand during the coming year. They want more room and they want a bigger program. They will probably get it through the same kind of community cooperation and community spirit that brought them this far along the road.

The Story of a Recreation Convert

(Continued from page 368)

July of 1929. The Mayor himself tossed the first ball for the inaugural game.

The enthusiasm of the crowd, the thrill of the game, gave Mayor Bailey a new appreciation of the meaning of recreation as a governmental function. Here was proof, positive and undeniable, of public interest in recreation; of its value in building community happiness and contentment; of its influence on a community provided with a well-balanced diet of worth-while leisure hour activities.

Mayor Bailey flashed the green light for furtherance of the projected development. But before work could be gotten fairly underway on a second baseball diamond, Mayor Bailey died unexpectedly in his sleep in mid-August—barely a month after the first ball diamond had been opened.

Then came a lull in the development. Successors did not possess Mayor Bailey's enthusiasm for the park and its development, or his vision of what it meant to the community of today—and tomorrow. Before it was possible to interest the new Mayor in the project, the great market crash had engulfed the nation. There was an immediate tightening of public funds. The park development was indefinitely shelved.

Three years later, through the efforts of these same tireless recreation workers, the city proposed completion of the Bailey Park development as one of the first major undertakings of the Federal Works Agency, then coming into being. And so the development program was revived.

Today Bailey Park contains six of the finest grassed-infield diamonds anywhere available—diamonds of such character that for years they have been utilized by the St. Louis National League Baseball Club as a site for one of its tryout camps; diamonds that have been the scene of many national and state baseball tournaments. One has a brick and concrete grandstand with seating capacity of 1,800. Underneath are showers, dressing rooms and lounges. Three others have brick-wooden bleachers each with seating capacity of 600.

There are three softball fields; four concrete tennis courts; several acres of picnic area with a dozen brick ovens and all-steel broilers and tables

Do You Belong?

On September 13, 1944, the membership in the Society of Recreation Workers of America had mounted to 682, the highest all-time membership record in the history of the Society. It is expected that the Society's year, which ends October 15, will see a membership of more than 700. The previous peak year for membership, 1943, produced a total of 536 on October 15. "This increase to date of 146," writes Philip LeBoutillier, secretary of the Society, "is indicative of an increased interest in professional growth."

with accommodations for about 400. There is, too, a fully-equipped playground with a lagoon wading pool; acre upon acre of sodded turf; a picturesque path along an enchanting waterway; shaded nooks and corners galore, and a splendidly appointed comfort station.

Today these compose Bailey Park at Battle Creek, Michigan—a living monument to a recreation convert—the late John W. Bailey.

Photographing the Birds

(Continued from page 370)

A string or fishline may be substituted for the cable release. In some cameras strings may be attached directly to the release levers, and by the use of eye screws placed on the tripods or other supports, the direction of pull may be controlled to make it possible to trip the shutters. For some of the miniature cameras with plunger releases, homemade devices may be constructed from plywood or metal and attached either directly to the tripods or to short cable releases.

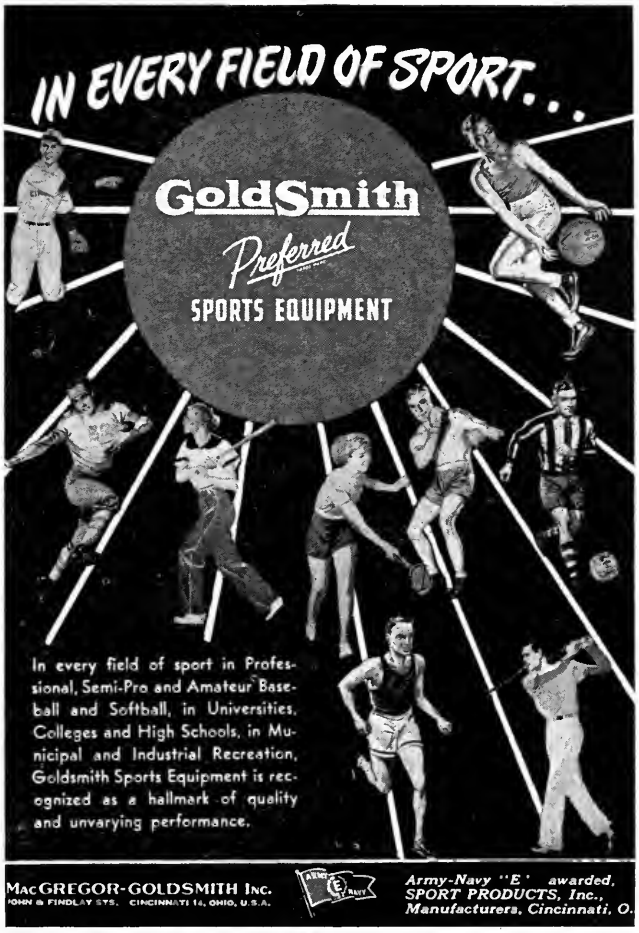
In photographing backyard feeding table activities, it is a time-saver to extend the string or cable release into the window of the house, provided that camera and table are so placed that they can be observed from a window. A photographer can set up his camera in the morning and go about other work inside the house, keeping an occasional eye on the camera from the window. Whenever birds are around the table in a suitable position for photographing, he can trip the shutter from inside the house. After resetting the camera, he may resume other work until another picture is ready for the taking.

Some photographers have carried remote control a step further and have set up electrical magnetic devices that require only the closing of a circuit to trip the shutter.

When nest pictures are desired, the tripod may be tied to a tree branch, or a clamp may be used to attach the camera directly to a branch. Here again the remote control device is used to release the shutter, with the photographer waiting in a hiding place until the desired picture can be secured. Parent birds feeding the young make among the best of bird pictures. A high angle is generally desired for such pictures. A pair of field glasses aids in observing the nest from a distance and in getting good shots.

With nests often in deep shade or mottled light, the greatest problem to overcome in getting nest pictures is that of light. An exposure meter is a great asset, for it is difficult to judge the quantity of light. When colored pictures are taken, the light factor is even more important than with black and white, for the colored film has very little latitude. In securing colored nesting pictures a synchro-flash is an invaluable aid. Daylight flash bulbs having the same color quality as daylight can be purchased, and colors will be true even when taken in mottled light.

It is said that in photography it is the man behind the camera rather than the camera that counts. This statement is true in bird photography, but there are certain limitations of equipment for which the human element cannot compensate. Bird pictures must be taken near enough to show the bird in sufficient size to be interesting. Therefore a box camera in which the bird would be out of focus at less than six feet has little value in photographing small birds. To get the bird to show up well on the film it is desirable to have a lens with a long focal length or to be able to move the camera close to the object to be photographed. A portrait lens attachment, extension bellows, or tubes may be required.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The picture on page 370 was taken with a 135 mm. lens on a miniature camera with a ground-glass focusing copy attachment. These made it possible to have the camera about five feet from the bird photographed but still to obtain a large image on the negative. If a large negative is used, with the bird occupying only a small part of the negative, fine-grain development will make possible great enlargement of the image.

The easiest place to start bird photography is in your own backyard with the equipment you now have and with the birds you are able to attract by regular feeding. Much can be accomplished with patience and originality in the development of homemade camera attachments.

Have a Theme for Your Party

(Continued from page 360)

Ladies' Choice, Leap Year, Turn Convention Inside Out
Left Handed

Mad March Hare
Magazine
March Blow-Out
Mardi Gras
May Day
Mayflower Frolic
Mexican Pineta
Mexican Fiesta
Military
Mirror
Moonlight
Mother and Daughter
Money Raising
Movie
Music Games
Musical Memories
Mystery—Houdini, Magician, Trick Tryst, Whodunit?

New Job
Newspaper
Night in Spain
Notables
Numbers
Nutty

Oasis
Old Clothes
Olympic
Open House
Our Times
Out of the Rut

Paper
Parents' Night
Patriotic
Pioneer—Westward Ho, Wild West, Gold Rush Days Boots and Saddles
Pirate
Pop
Pop-corn
Pot Luck
Poverty
Powers Model
Prehistoric
Progressive Supper
Psychological

Queer Query—Professor Quiz, Quiz Kids

Radio
Rainbow
Ration
Reunion
Robin Hood

Salmagundi Spree
Scavenger
Sculpture
Seventeen Seventy-Six
Ship Ahoy
Shower Party—Bridal, Stork
Sing It
South of the Border
Spanish Fiesta
Spelling Bee
Spring Clean Up
Star Study, Astronomy
Stroke of Twelve—Turn Back the Clock, Turn Over a New Leaf
Street Fair
Stunt

Tall Stories
Tin Can
Tip Toppers (Tall People)
To the Ladies
Treasure Hunt
Twelfth Night
Twenty-One

Upside Down
Utopia

Victorian
Victory

Wall Street
Welcome Home
When the Men Entertain
White Elephant
Whozit
Windy
Wordy

You Can Make It
Young Man's Fancy

Zany
Zodiac

"Puppetry enriches dramatic play. The confidence gained in presentation of ideas through puppets gives children a deep emotional experience." — *Lambert* and *Shoemaker* in *Let Them Play.*

A Recreational Leadership Class in a Public High School

(Continued from page 365)

ever, can be developed in each one; and this is decidedly worth while in our quest for real democracy. It is a real thrill to discover that the big, overweight boy with large unskilled hands who had so much trouble with handicraft, worked as a volunteer in a settlement house teaching woodcraft, and that the little timid girl spent this summer telling stories at a summer day camp for preschool children whose parents were in war industry.

The age of the juvenile delinquent is going down as the need for leadership in recreation is increasing. If our high school youth can serve as leaders of the younger children and release the adults for the older boys and girls, and if these high school people will use their leisure in volunteer work in our community centers, the delinquency problem will be greatly alleviated.

Can You Entertain Yourself?

(Continued from page 369)

tainment and in this town there are no movies!

The last letter I had from Sarah told me of her life in Texas with her soldier husband. Although the camp at which he was stationed was far from town, they had been so fortunate as to secure a few rooms in a farmhouse close enough to enable John to come home every night. He had, of course, to leave early in the morning and sometimes could not return until very late. Thus, except for the companionship of the farmer and his wife, Sarah was left in the country alone every day from five or six in the morning until seven in the evening.

Not different is the situation of defense workers. Corrine, one of my former students, has a job welding in St. Louis. Mary, another pupil of mine, is working as an electrician in an airplane factory in Los Angeles eight hours a day, seven days a week. When he came back from visiting an airplane factory in Emporia, Kansas, one of my friends told of girls who spent the entire day counting bolts or examining the threads of a nut. If the threads are not perfect, the nut cannot be securely fastened, and the bolt will not hold firm. The manufacturer hires his own examiners, but the work is so important that the government hires inspectors to make an additional check. In any of these positions, it is exciting at first to feel that one is playing an essential part in the war effort; but what comes afterwards? It is fine to get time-and-a-half pay for overtime work, but that does not make the work less monotonous or the strain less telling.

What can keep these people going for days, weeks, even years, and leave them strong and wholesome people to carry their share of the burden during the days of reconstruction? Obviously, they must have skill for the present job; but it is equally important that they have within themselves resources through which they can not only repair the mental and spiritual damage of the day but also grow stronger for the future. They must know how to find recreation that is truly re-creation.

I have spoken of Mary and Sarah and Corrine because I know them and know what they are; they will not crack. But when one of our staff visited a shipbuilding concern in Los Angeles at Christmas, the manager told her he had had great trouble with his employees. They got tired; the work was boresome; they did not stick.

In which class will you be? Will you crack or can you stick? Are you prepared for the spiritual demands of the war?

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Speech Classes Are More Interesting Now!

(Continued from page 372)

conductor was engaged. All planning and organization for the speech rally was done by the speech class. They even provided their own publicity, for they bragged about themselves to the local newspaper, announced the project in classes, and talked about it to everybody they saw, thus proving to themselves the value of propaganda.

One night in May the court was illuminated, the band played several Sousa compositions, and Coldwater residents and visitors gathered at the courthouse park to buy hot dogs sold by the senior class and to listen to the speech rally. Speakers were introduced by members of the class and problems of the day were discussed by the local authorities. On the program, in addition to all the adults, were two outstanding high school speakers. The following day the local paper carried a full account of Coldwater's successful rally for war, and even the Detroit *Free Press* gave us publicity.

In addition to the projects mentioned, we have managed to prepare the usual run of speech assignments, lessons in parliamentary procedure, debates, dramatic interpretation, readings, and formal

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speaking such as eulogies and speeches of introduction. The outside activities, in our opinion, were successful in making the class more interesting and far more beneficial to the student. For the boy and girl learned to adapt his talks to all age groups—something that cannot be done in speech class alone.

Once a year the speech class goes to church where we hear a professional speaker, the minister. Following our visit that minister visits the class to tell the boys and girls how he prepares his talks and what devices he considers pertinent to good speeches. Usually, following this discussion, the boys and girls are eager to present individual problems for help or suggestions.

Whenever we put on a school play, the children visited the other schools in town and gave pep talks about the play. These contacts are always enjoyed.

In debate, we usually use as our first question the ever-interesting problem to boys and girls: "Should boys and girls in high school date steady?" From this simple question we work toward more learned resolutions. As we become better debaters, we tackle more difficult subjects. In forum discussions my classes have always found boy-girl problems of intense interest, and frequently in panel discussions the students have been interested in discussing the idea of girls wearing slacks in school. Not only is the panel interested in discussing the problem, but the audience is interested in contributing, and from these light discussions on adolescence we work into the topics suggested by the Victory Speakers' Bureau.

I find that my classes are gradually changing. There are fewer football players and more above average students coming into the class to gain poise in speaking rather than to escape world literature!

New York City After the War

(Continued from page 373)

been so great that we have asked the Borough President of Manhattan to build a promenade between 52nd and 58th Streets, connecting these park areas. Most of the rights of access to this waterfront were retained by the original owners at the time the easement was taken for the construction of the Drive.

(Continued on page 390)

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Beach and Pool, August 1944
Relaxation and Swimming, Dorothy R. Mohr, Ph.D.
Proper Pool Supervision, Tom L. Johnson

School Activities, September 1944
Education in the High School for Leisure Activities, W. Ardell Haines

Monthly Bulletin, Indiana State Board of Health, July 1944
Modern Hoosier Swimming Holes, George G. Fassnacht

The Baptist Training Union Magazine, September 1944
Christian Recreation, Calling Our Churches, Sibley C. Burnett

Hygeia, September 1944
Significance of Swing, Lucille G. Rosenheim

Probation, June 1944
Juvenile Delinquency, Wartime Trends 1943, Frederick W. Killian

National Humane Review, June 1944
Wildlife vs. Camping, William H. Cass

Parks and Recreation, May-June 1944
Victory Gardening and Park Departments, William J. Dougherty

Journal of Health and Physical Education, September 1944
Statement on Boxing, Arthur H. Steinhans
Advertising Sports Events, C. L. Jordan

PAMPHLETS

Plan for Public Recreational Areas, St. Louis, Missouri
City Planning Commission, St. Louis, Missouri

A Catalogue of Selected Educational Recordings (including section on youth problems)
Recordings Division, New York University Film Library, Washington Square, New York 3, N. Y.

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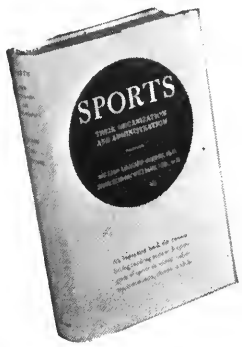

A brilliantly informative new book! These well-known, experienced authors give you practical and specific directions for organizing and conducting a super-successful schedule of sports. Nothing has been overlooked! The needs of both sexes and all age groups have been recognized and answered in vivid detail. The book is well-written and splendidly organized. It definitely belongs on your sportshelf.

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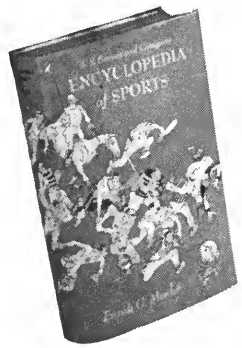
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SPORTS

By Frank G. Menke



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(Continued from page 389)

Recreational Facilities for Housing Projects

In connection with the ten new state public housing projects planned for postwar construction, recreational needs of the neighborhood as well as of the project residents will be taken care of as part of the project. One of the best will be at Astoria Houses, Queens, on the East River at the end of Astoria Boulevard. Bulkhead reconstruction and extension will make room for complete recreation facilities.

Marine Park, Brooklyn, 1,792 acres, will have golf courses, boat bases, playgrounds, and general park areas. Great Kills Park, Richmond, 1,256 acres, will have a two-mile beach and complete facilities for recreation. This park, and Soundview Park in the Bronx, 159 acres, will be built on land completely reclaimed with the aid of the Department of Sanitation dumping operations.

Flushing Meadow Park, former World Fair site, is ready for completion and will supply complete facilities for this neighborhood. It is to be connected by Kissena Corridor with Kissena and Cunningham Parks, providing a continuous green strip 4½ miles long through the heart of Queens. Both Kissena and Cunningham Parks will have large areas reclaimed and reconstructed. Farther out in the borough, part of Alley Park is being reclaimed from swamp land.

Ninety-four New Playgrounds

The program provides plans for ninety-four new playgrounds and the reconstruction of sixteen old ones in neglected parts of the city. Some will be operated jointly by the Board of Education and the Department of Parks at the sites of new schools. Some will be built in conjunction with the new housing developments planned by the New York City Housing Authority. Others will be built in congested districts throughout the city on properties acquired by purchase, condemnation, and foreclosure of tax liens. Upon completion of these new play areas, the Department will have 581 playgrounds in operation. There were 119 when we took charge in 1934.

The scope of the program and its objectives may not be broad enough to satisfy academic planners. . . . We believe, however, that it will appeal to the average citizen who wants the city improved, wants men employed at useful work, and is willing to pay the bill if the work is intelligently laid out and honestly executed.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Evenings with Music

By Syd Skolsky. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. $3.00.

IN TWENTY-SEVEN CHAPTERS, each an evening of music appreciation, the novice at listening to the world's great music is guided from Bach to Prokofieff. Charts and drawings enable the eye to come to the aid of the ear in grasping the fundamentals of the various elements that go into the making and the performance of a musical composition.

Ben Hunt's Whittling Book

Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. $2.50.

WHAT TO DO with a pocketknife and a hunk of soft wood is the subject of 111 pages of pictures and print by a mastercraftsman in the art of whittling. Mr. Hunt explains in the preface to his manual that "the subjects illustrated . . . were selected to be of interest to students, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, home craftsmen, and teachers." Both illustrations and text should prove valuable to the novice in the art of whittling.

For those wood-workers who prefer a file to a knife, or for whittling devotees who would like to try their hands with a new tool, *Wood Rasp Carving* by Louis J. Haas (published by the author at 3 Gedney Terrace, White Plains, N. Y.) is an easy-to-follow manual. Like Ben Hunt, Mr. Haas has used pictures and text to explain each step in the craft. This booklet, the price of which is 80 cents, is the latest addition to a series of how-to-do-its published by Mr. Haas in recent years. Among the earlier titles of interest to arts-and-crafters are *Art Metal Work and Jewelry, Graphic Bookbinding,* and *The Fold-Ups.*

Round-the-World Christmas Album

Compiled and arranged by Felix Guenther. English adaptations by Olga Paul. Edward B. Marks Music Corporation, R.C.A. Building, New York. $.50.

HERE IS A BOOK to remember when you plan your 1944 Christmas celebration. The Album represents a collection of Christmas carols and songs from many nations. A number of songs have been included which are outstanding as much for their poetic and musical value as for the glimpses of cultural background they provide.

Encyclopedia of Sports

By Frank G. Menke. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $3.50.

WE BELIEVE we shall not be challenged if we make the statement that no one has made a more exhaustive study of the background and history of sports or dug out more interesting facts about them than Frank Menke. This enlarged and revised edition of the 1939 *Encyclopedia of Sports* deals not only with the sports and interesting facts about them, but with organizations which promote them, and players who have taken part in them and become well known because of their outstanding ability. Not only interesting but often little known facts crowd the pages of this volume of more than 625 pages.

Sports—Their Organization and Administration

By William Leonard Hughes, Ph.D. and Jesse Feiring Williams, M.D., Sc.D. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York 18. $4.00.

THE AUTHORS, believing that the wide participation of people in a variety of athletic games and sports influences profoundly their cultural and social pattern, have devoted this book to a consideration of sports in relation to the American scene. The early chapters consider the place of sports in modern American life; the later chapters give practical, concrete suggestions and directions for the conduct of sports in various institutions at different age levels and with respect to the needs of both sexes. In brief, the first part of the book presents a social philosophy—a point of view; the latter part, an educational analysis—a way of procedure. It is the hope of the authors that those who read the book will gain an understanding of the place of sports in American culture and will learn how to conduct them so that social values will emerge.

Conquering the Surf—Lifesaving and Surfboarding

By Henry F. Pohl. Hoffman-Harris, Inc., 425 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. $1.35.

THIS BOOK HAS BEEN WRITTEN not only for aquatic professionals and members of the armed forces, but for all individuals who want to derive more pleasure from the surf. The material is clear and informative, and graphically illustrated.

How-to-Build-It Series

By Hi Sibley. Douglas Fir Plywood Association, 205 East 42nd Street, New York 17. Up to five copies, free.

THESE PRACTICAL LEAFLETS cover such subjects as *A Rigid, Take-Apart Tennis Table; An Informal Garden Pool; Two Swings and a Merry-Go-Round; Two Folding Picnic Tables; Make Your Own Bird-Bath; Portable Workbench for Indoors; A Dutch-Colonial Doll House;* and *A Light-Weight Skiff* and other articles.

Great Song of Faith.

Arranged by Beatrice and Max Krones. Neil A. Kjos Music Company. Chicago. $.50.

Eighteen songs from different lands and different times have been brought together and arranged to be sung by congregation and choir, or by two choirs. Many of the hymns will be familiar to everyone, others, less widely known, are well worth learning.

Tricks You Can Do Without Practice.

Hart Publishing Company. New York. $.06.

Here are twenty-one tricks, with cards, with coins, with cigarettes and cutlery and checkers and strings and other commodities you might find in your pocket—or at least very close to hand. The booklet tells, with pictures, how to mystify your friends. It is one of a series of nine titles published by the Hart Company at the same price. Some of the other titles are *A Slew of Swell Pencil Games, A Pack of Prize Cartoon Games, What's Your I.Q., The World's Best Puzzles, The World's Best Quizzes.*

Health and First Aid.

By Morris Fishbein, M.D. and Leslie W. Irwin, Ph.D. Lyons and Carnahan, New York. $1.60.

Designed as a textbook, *Health and First Aid* is a clear and reasonable approach to the two subjects. The book is divided into two parts. The first half is a common-sense discussion of day to day questions such as clothing and sleeping, and diet habits in relation to health, the care of the teeth, skin and hair, and similar topics. The second half of the book is a manual of first aid.

Economic Factors in Michigan Delinquency.

By Paul Wiers. Edited by William N. Fuson. Columbia University Press, New York. $1.00.

This study, the first attempt known to its sponsors to provide a state-wide statistical picture of the economic backgrounds of juvenile delinquency in the United States, supplies a method for broadening scientific research in juvenile delinquency. The study reaches the conclusion that delinquency prevention will not be achieved by a program of slum clearance confined to the larger cities, and it will not be eliminated merely by raising the average income of a community. The problem of parental neglect must be solved if the maximum possible reduction of delinquency rates is to be achieved. An important question is raised in the final conclusion reached, which is that the data shows a lack of association, either negative or positive, between educational indices and church membership on the one hand, and the rate of juvenile delinquency on the other. "Are the churches and the schools really as neutral in this fight as this study suggests?"

Delinquency and the Community in Wartime.

1943 Yearbook of the National Probation Association. Edited by Marjorie Bell. National Probation Association, 1790 Broadway, New York 19. Paper bound, $1.25; cloth, $1.75.

This issue of the Yearbook of the National Probation Association contains addresses, discussions, and reports on the treatment and prevention of delinquency and crime by leaders in the correctional field who discuss such questions as how the war is affecting delinquency and crime in local communities, and what are the most effective methods in meeting the problem. This timely publication will be of great interest to recreation workers and other leaders of youth.

How to Retire and Like It.

By Raymond P. Kaighn. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. $1.75.

Here is a guide to happy and satisfying retirement. Our later years, the author points out, can be filled with happiness and usefulness if we will learn from the experience of others. And so he suggests ways of meeting the physical, financial, vocational, avocational, emotional and social adjustments upon which will depend the degree of happiness the retired man or woman will achieve. There are many suggestions for hobbies and satisfying recreation.

1943 Year Book—Park and Recreation Progress.

National Conference on State Parks, Washington, D. C. $1.00.

The effect of the war upon the state parks and their services is made clear in this publication which contains detailed statements submitted by park authorities in 36 states. Evidence is presented that in spite of travel restrictions, state parks are making a valuable contribution to the war effort. Although civilian use has been curtailed in most of the states, park areas and facilities are serving large numbers of men and women in the armed forces. The National Conference of State Parks is to be commended for having assembled and made available the valuable information contained in the Year Book.

In addition to the accounts of developments in 1943, the Year Book presents statistical tables recording the 1942 expenditures, sources of funds, personnel and attendance at state parks and data concerning the existing acreage and land acquired during the year. A directory of the agencies administering state parks and related recreational areas is a useful feature of the publication.

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Al Smith

Pach Brothers, New York

IN THE DEATH of Alfred E. Smith on October 4, 1944, the national recreation movement lost a loyal friend.

Many years ago, before Al Smith gained a world reputation, he was asked if he would join the staff of the National Recreation Association. He sat back in his chair and looked out of the window and talked about how much he cared for boys and how much he enjoyed working for them. He spoke of how much music could mean in the lives of the boys even in the most crowded city districts, and wished that something could be done to make sure that there were a very much larger number of music teachers who would give lessons at a fee not exceeding fifty cents a lesson. Though he did not feel free to devote himself to the national recreation movement as a staff member, he was always ready to throw his influence to help when called upon. At one time a bill was before the New York State Legislature to amend the act giving local communities home rule in establishing recreation systems. Al Smith was so deeply interested that he, as Governor, sent three separate messages regarding this bill, and it was his help that brought about its passage.

One of the close associates of Al Smith in days at Albany was Belle Lindner Moskowitz, who had been so successful a member of the National Recreation Association staff, working on commercial recreation problems. Another close friend was Robert Moses. Al Smith gave wholehearted backing to Robert Moses in building up various parks in New York State and particularly in the development of the internationally famed Jones Beach. Jones Beach is a monument not only to Robert Moses but also to Al Smith.

He was a natural recreation leader of no little capacity and with such social gifts that he was a welcome companion in his home neighborhood and came to be beloved by New York upstate legislators and by many who came to know him throughout the nation. On the closing night of the legislative sessions at Albany, Republicans as well as Democrats gathered in the Governor's chamber as they waited for the time that had been set for adjournment, because everyone liked to be with Al Smith. For many years he was known as "The Happy Warrior." He had a rich, human quality which made the days pleasanter because he was around.

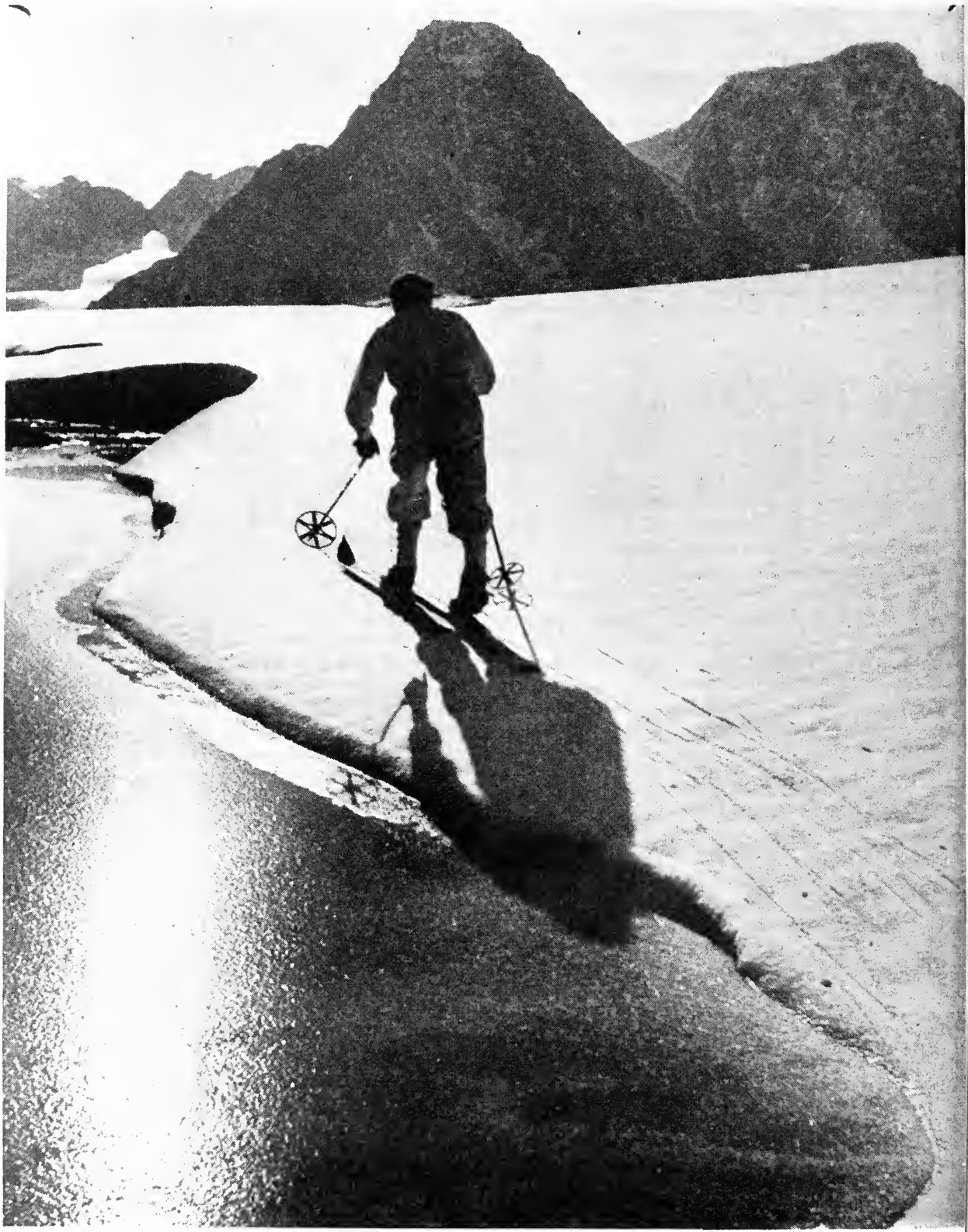
Our playgrounds and our recreation centers greatly need leaders with the natural gifts he possessed in such large measure. He had worked in the fish market, had lived on the sidewalks of New York, knew what boys and men cared for. With him public recreation was not something which one group provides for another, but rather what all the people work out for all citizens. He was a leader of the Lincoln tradition. He was thoroughly alive himself, and he had a way of sharing that life with all who came near him.

The recreation movement succeeds or fails according as it imparts a quality to all of living. Al Smith was particularly successful in bringing the recreation spirit into everything he did and increasing the sum total of human happiness because of the spirit he carried with him. He made New York City a kindlier and a friendlier place just because he lived in it. He was equally at home on the East Side and speaking on the Harvard University platform with an intellectual leader such as Professor Albert North Whitehead. A part of his great strength was that he always spoke in such clear and simple language that no one could doubt what he was saying. His deepest thinking was understood by the ordinary man on the street. All felt that he knew what was in the hearts of men.

Above all else the national recreation movement needs for its lay as well as its professional leadership in the various neighborhoods men who have in some small degree the gifts for comradeship, for leadership, for simple, human living, for understanding of men that Al Smith possessed in such large measure.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

November



Courtesy Official Information Bureau of Switzerland

Get In There and Paint!

By JOSEPH ALGER

Long ago Mr. Alger, an advertising man in New York City, began fooling with the brushes and paints of an artist friend—and was lost, or, as he puts it, "I have been stuck in that delightful fly-paper ever since." Mr. Alger is a talented amateur pianist, but he says that his music does not give him the relaxation painting does. "When I play, and forget to put my thumb just so, I worry. But when I paint, if my tree looks like a pineapple, it doesn't bother me. I forget my troubles."

"TO HAVE reached the age of 40 without ever handling a brush or fiddling with a pencil, and then suddenly to find oneself plunged in the middle of a new and intense form of interest and action with paints and palettes and canvases, and not to be discouraged by results, is an astonishing and enriching experience. I hope it may be shared by others."

Thus wrote Winston Churchill a dozen years ago. He is still so enthusiastic an amateur that he took his brushes to Casablanca and after that historic conference stole a day to go painting.

Mr. Churchill wasn't talking through his cigar! Painting pictures is fun. You can do it—anybody can do it. And if you mistake this for one of these now-even-*you*-can-play-the-saxophone claims, you will ban yourself from a hereby guaranteed hobby that pays almost indecently large dividends in ecstacy. It is the only hobby that is insulated with adamant against the intrusion of worry. It is an authentic passport to delightful new powers of observation by which you will see and really appreciate for the first time everything from the Taj Mahal to a tin cup. And all the pictures you paint will always remain heartening reminders of the happiest moments of your life.

The best thing about painting as a hobby is that it is so easy. You don't have to be able to draw to do it. *Painting in oils is the easiest form of art!*

"What about water colors?" you ask.

Very glad you brought that up. It leads us to a very important point, entitled . . . Water Colors Must Go!

We give children little tin water color boxes because water colors are cheaper than oils and (more important) they are far more tidy. The picture of a six-year-old set loose with a palette of oils is a horrible one. But little tin boxes of water colors have done more to stifle interest in painting than the competition of all other hobbies combined.

Water colors in amateur hands are feeble things: pale imitations of the bright glories of nature. And hard to handle! They run, they streak, they fade, they blur. You paint in the sky and quickly realize it is much too dark. Too late! You can't correct it, once it's on paper. Only an expert who knows exactly what he is going to do should be permitted to use water colors at all. So no matter how much you like other people's water colors, avoid trying to make your own.

Let's get some oils and start painting. You will find people in artists' supplies stores very friendly and helpful, and quite used to beginners and their questions. You can get all the materials you'll need for a long time for less than ten dollars. Probably you would feel too self-conscious in a smock and tam-o'-shanter. But do wear old clothes and have plenty of rags at hand. A blob of vermillion doesn't look so good on a new gray suit.

Let's Go!

Now, let's go.

Remember, you don't have to draw to paint. We abandoned that statement back up the road a piece. Let's take it up again.

The effect of a painting is produced largely by color and needn't lean heavily on the outlines. All we need are a few lines to indicate the general shapes.

You're going to paint that picturesque old barn. All right. One vertical line (better use charcoal) will place the corner of the barn, another line the base. A couple of lines for the trunk of the tree, and maybe a branch or two. Then a line to indicate the horizon—whatever divides the sky from whatever meets it (tree, barn, hill). That's all! No leaves, doorknobs, cats, mice or daffodils. It's the painting that's fun, and any time wasted in getting into a mess of details is to be deplored. As we start to paint, anything resembling a real drawing on our canvas is purely coincidental.

The great moment is upon you. Soon you will reach that ecstatic state of self-confidence when you will take advice from nobody. So before it's too late, one word: Don't spare the horses! Plaster it on. There are no flimsy, treacherous water colors. These are lusty, pliable, cooperative oils. There is nothing you can do that cannot be undone at the next stroke of the brush. One thing: Keep everything big! Anything that is too small or too detailed for a good-sized brush shouldn't be in the picture at all.

Now squeeze out little blobs of color on your palette, and a big blob of white. And take a look at that sky. It is, let's say, cloudless. And it really is blue. Still not as blue as Uncle Ed's shirt. Take a half of a butter ball of white on your palette knife and plaster it on the front of your palette. Careful now! Just a pinch of blue and mix with the white until there are no streaks. Not blue enough? All right, just a tiny bit more—but easy! Satisfied? Dip your brush in the turpentine, then in the paint and slap it on! Boldly—never mind if you slop over the barn a bit.

The barn is red—vermillion and white seem to mix the right tone for the sunny side. A very little black and blue darken it to what seems right for the shady side. The grass in the direct sunlight is a golden green—yellow with a little blue and some white. In the shade, it's a deeper green—meaning we add a lot of blue.

If you've painted over some of the trunk of the tree, never mind. Scrape the paint off with the knife. Corrections are a cinch in oil painting. You can scrape with the knife, wipe with the rag. Or you can let the whole thing dry and paint right over what you've done.

Back off now, five or six paces, and take a look. Begins to look like something, doesn't it? And yet this is your very first try! You're on your own from now on. Use your own judgment. Squint, make up your mind what color you see, and experiment until you get it. You'll inevitably wish you had a tiny brush to fill in little details. Resist that temptation!

What to Paint

After the barn, what else shall we paint? Something outdoors on a sunny day is perhaps the easiest. But if it's a gloomy or cold day and you want to paint in the house, try a still life. The still life is the show-off of the professionals. It proves that they can take humdrum subjects and do fine painting for painting's sake. But it's great sport for amateurs. So group your pipe, bottle, book, and orange to please your own taste and paint away. And you will enjoy doing the corner of a room with a chair, a table and a lamp, but you will get happier results if Aunt Susan is not sitting in the chair at the time! Portraits are for professionals. They are the devil to do.

Snow is a painting pushover. A snow covered landscape is just about the easiest thing in painting. Snow, as advertised, is white. Water is no color, actually; to the painter, it is whatever color it reflects. The sky is or is not blue, as happens. But snow is right there in your tube of white. Sometimes it will catch glints of yellow or pink, and its shadows are blue, not black. Still, snow is white, and a great comfort. Snow's only drawback is that it is as cold as it looks, and it is hard to paint in mittens. Snowdrifts, a red barn, the bare limbs of an apple tree, a cold blue sky—there's a picture. Corny? *Sure*—and so what?

The painter is master of all he surveys. If you think your picture would be more interesting with that tree moved over beyond the shed, put it there and apologize to nobody. If there is a dull and complicated wheelbarrow in front of you, ignore it. Pretend you never saw it. Omission is no sin in painting. It is, in fact, the road to good results. What you want is a picture, not a real estate chart.

You will learn that many "pretty" things are not especially good fun for painting. Flowers, for example. Their bright colors are bait, but their delicate and demanding details are pitfalls. A few blobs of red showing poppies in a field—that's one thing, but a spray of gladioli is quite another. And sunsets—skip them! They have been the inspiration for more bad pictures than any other subject.

Some day you will round the bend of a mountain road and look for miles over a green valley to more mountains. "What a picture!" you may think. But think twice. There is no large central object of interest. What you see is just a giant bowl of leaves, and you will probably have a tough time getting any of the staggering effect you experience in real life.

Your subject should be interesting, simple, and practical rather than pretty. Ugliness is, curiously, often turned to beauty in painting. Try a picture sometime when you happen on a parched field with broken and decayed tree stumps and a tumbledown shack. Or see what happens when you paint such mundane objects as a filling station or a

railroad depot. You may be pleasantly surprised. And also try a strictly imaginary landscape. That's all right, too.

Observation Versus Mere Sight

Notice how your interest in everything around you picks up after you take up oil painting. You will be delighted to see that you have gained another sense, the sense of observation as contrasted with mere sight. You immediately see with great interest and deep appreciation many things, long right before you, which you have never really seen before. Brambles on the beach take on remarkable beauty as they bow to the will of the wind. The giant squashes posing majestically under the panoply of their elephantine leaves take on the grace of brass horns. Your piano, which you have seen about fifty times a day since you made the first down payment, suddenly has a stately beauty. The intricacies of the strings have the orderly grandeur of the Bach fugues they produce.

Your newly acquired sense will make you conscious, too, of the discords of sight. You will suddenly become aware that too many things in our houses are ill-proportioned, and too many colors are sickly and vulgar.

Even that is a risk worth taking as part of the price of delight. For painting does raise the curtain on a new and interesting world full of beautiful and comical and ugly and breath-taking sights. You will regret all the years in which you have lived in blindness.

A New Fellowship

You will feel a new fellowship with artists. Corot, once a far removed Frenchman, becomes your cousin. You admire the way he does foliage and feel he would give you a pat on the back for the way you handled that picket fence! You begin to refer to artists as "We"— and that does more for your soul than a free trip to Paris.

But you are hereby warned that professional artists have no profound respect for amateurs. They may call you a "Sunday painter," by which they mean they rank you with the man who imitates bird calls at parties. But this should cause you no discomfort at all.

You can find triumphant solace in the large number of your fellow amateurs. The country is riddled with painters, but they don't wear tam-o'-shanters or badges and you discover them usually only through some chance remark. Or you hear of one of the many, many painting clubs, such as the Chicago doctors', or the New York business men's. Intimate though painting is, there are times when you feel like coming out of your isolated tower and communicating with the world beyond. Clubs or groups are perfect for such moments.

The Awful Arts Club in New York City has been wending its informal (no dues) way for ten years. Its deprecatory title was adopted to make sure no outsider should get the impression that any member thought he was really an artist.

Not Least of All—Memories

One of the pleasures of painting is the fact that each picture in your collection evokes a pleasant memory. The still life of oranges and guitar brings back a rainy afternoon when several friends dropped in and you gave them all paints and brushes. Everyone dived in with a will. The results were interesting and entertaining.

That picture of the small side street house brings back a smile. All the morning you had been painting it in the comfortable tall grass and spring shade. A boy came whistling home from school, and, of course, stopped to inspect. After full five minutes of silent observation he exclaimed, "Why, that's *my* house!" Such inevitable insults are more than atoned for by words of praise. One "Gee, I wish I could paint!" is worth a dozen art school diplomas. You may even get "Gee, I wish I could paint like that!" which is a sort of Phi Beta Kappa award.

So go and get paints and a handful of brushes, palette and canvas and easel. Or use a makeshift palette and one brush and no easel at all. The thing is:

Get in there and paint!

"Try painting your own pictures or making your own music. . . . You'll enjoy it more than that which is offered professionally. Above all, bring some cheerfulness into it. Art is born out of joy. It is play.

"I will give you a yardstick, something to tell you whether an art or an artist is really worthy of your respect and admiration. The measure of greatness lies in two simple and excellent words of the English language that we rarely use and might well use again. I shall now give them to you as the final identification marks of great art, or of great men and women, or of any great leaders of society. The two words are 'nobility' and 'dignity.'" — *Hendrik Willem van Loon* in *The New York Times.*

What About Water Colors?

By CHESTER G. MARSH
Arts and Crafts Adviser
Program Division, Girl Scouts

IN MR. ALGER'S provocative article, "Get In There and Paint," he supposes that you ask, "What about water colors?" and he answers your hypothetical question with an emphatic "Water colors must go!"

Now, don't let the title of "art adviser" throw you! As an art adviser, I am a train starter—the person who knows where, when and how the train goes, but who doesn't drive the engine. As an artist, I am an enthusiastic and rank amateur with emphasis on the rank, and as an amateur I am an ardent water colorist. Therefore, title notwithstanding, I feel qualified to enter the ring in good amateur standing in defense of water colors.

First let me say that I applaud Mr. Alger's article, and when I read it I wanted to shout "Amen," "Hallelujah," and "Glory Be" to everything he said except his comments about water colors, especially this one—"only an expert who knows exactly what he is doing should be permitted to use water colors at all."

To make the paint used for this water color, Girl Scouts in Greensboro, North Carolina, mixed gum arabic, honey, and water with clay of different colors

To infer that all the fun, all the vivid adventure to be found in painting, can come to amateurs only through the medium of oils is like saying a new driver can get to the next town only by driving a Ford. Painting, as a rich, satisfying experience is all that Mr. Alger claims and more—it is vitamins for the vitiated, bromides for the bombastic, an antidote for age, and it shuts out worries as effectively as the most horrific "who-dun-it."

I have two friends, both like Mr. Churchill and myself, above forty, who make stunning pencil sketches with the same exultant satisfaction that Mr. Alger finds in oils. Some of our girls in a southern camp made paints out of the different colored clays found on the camp site. Dried, powdered and mixed with honey and gum arabic, some beautiful clear colors were obtained, and the girls had a wonderful time painting with them.

Some years ago when I began sketching, I was told to work in oils and stay away from water colors. All the arguments advanced by Mr. Alger were given to me: too difficult — no corrections possible —they're either too wet or too dry—in fact I was assured, and I was convinced, that they wouldn't work and I couldn't do them. So I didn't.

I painted in oils and I loved it. I carried a big sketch box, a canvas, and a collapsible camp stool uphill and down dale. I left oily paint-smeared rags tucked tidily under boulders all over the country, side and seashore. I painted barns, boats, sand dunes, and haystacks. It wasn't always easy to tell which was which. I came back from vacations triumphantly laden with wet canvases separated by judiciously placed corks.

That was all right so long as I confined my painting orgies to vacations and week ends—but

We gave Mrs. Marsh a preview of the article by Mr. Alger. She read it, found it delightful—as we know all our readers will—and applauded it enthusiastically. There was, however, one statement with which she could not agree! So we persuaded her to put in writing the reasons for her difference of opinion. Here they are. If, after reading the two articles, you have the urge to paint, you may have the comfortable feeling that whether you use oils or water colors, you're on the right track!

the matter didn't stop there. I had such a good time I wanted to paint whenever I had a free moment. Our apartment was small and one member of the family didn't like the odor of turpentine—so inside work was out. I either had to take to the great open spaces or not paint. I had to make a choice—either be a Sunday painter in every sense of the word, or change my medium. I chose to change my medium.

I approached water colors timorously, bought a book, a box of paints, two brushes and a block of rough paper.

Listen — don't ever let anyone tell you that water color is only for experts. Really, I mean it! It is a pushover. After my first attempt the world was mine. I gave away my sketch box, my collapsible camp stool, my canvas stretchers, and I gloried in a new freedom.

I can now paint at any time, in any place—still life in our own apartment; while waiting for trains in far-off cities or visiting camps; from a park bench; in a canoe. I even made a sketch while leaning up against a telephone pole in Talullah, Louisiana, on Market Day. I'd never heard of the place but had to change buses there on my way to Vicksburg in flood time, and the bus was late. There was an old white pillared, colonial house opposite the bus station. Believe it or not, I didn't care when the bus arrived!

I have grown positively brazen about it — I paint everywhere at any time and I have made many interesting friends because of it. And I have had many interesting adventures. A landslide held up our train in Gore Canyon, Colorado, for seven hours. It was a grand chance to paint, and I loaned paper and brushes to three passengers who had a wonderful initiation to a new interest. In Little Rock, Arkansas, I was stranded all night waiting for a train. Four soldiers and a WAC tried their hand at water color with me with surprising results. I still get letters from them.

Water colors need not be

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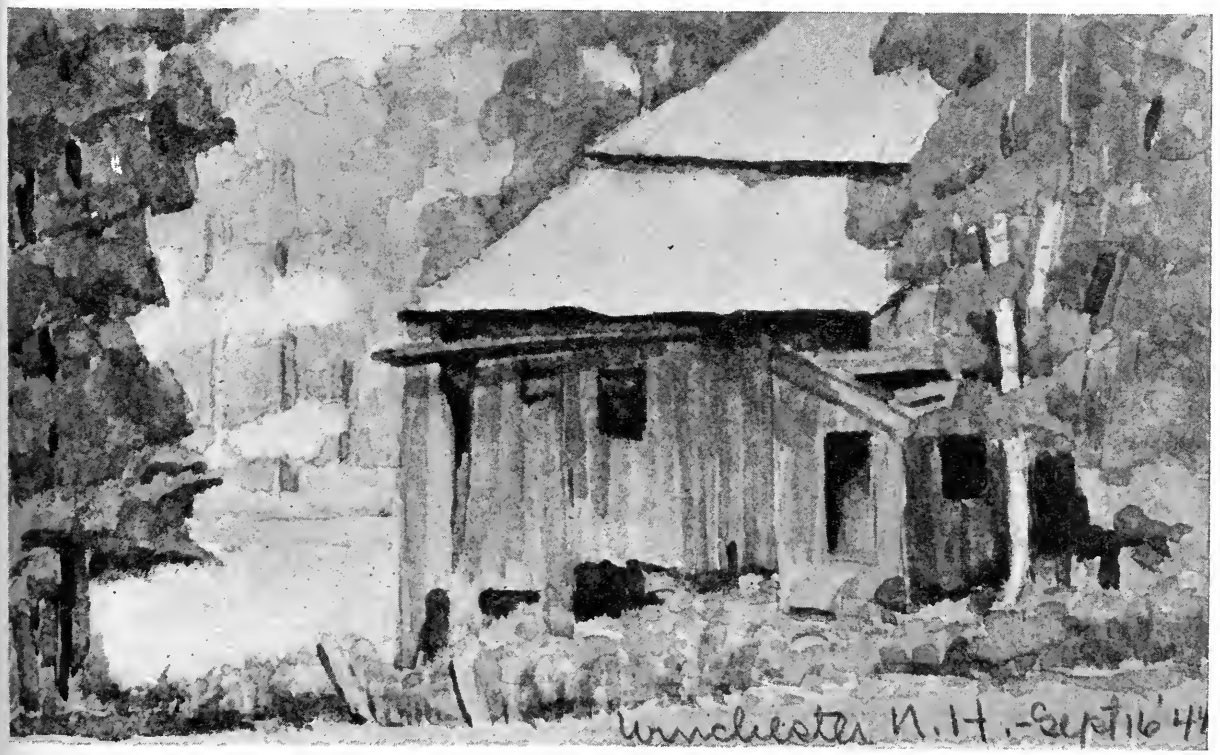
Painting of an old barn in Winchester, New Hampshire, made by the author on vacation



Post-College Recreation

By MARY Z. CASETY

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY has a new approach to physical education. The directors of physical education courses for men and women have set up a program which aims at a fuller enjoyment of life beyond the college years. Things that college boys and girls can do after they get out of college; skills that may be continued on down through the years; sports that may contribute to their physical well-being and consequent good health; recreation that will provide an outlet for leisure time use; knowledge that will enrich their lives and that may be passed down through them to others — these are all integral factors in the program. So far, there are four such opportunities open to Syracuse students: ski school, winter carnival, outing club, and outdoor leadership training.

Not only skilled skiers but all students who wish to learn how to ski may participate in the skiing activities. The program is particularly appealing to students from the south who have never seen a pair of skis, let alone been on them. Such students get just as much attention as the squad of A skiers who compete in ski meets.

The ski school has afternoon and evening classes. Beginners are classed together and are taught how to put on skis and how to walk on them. Then they must learn how to fall, for safety principles are the main concern of the program. The students who have had some experience on skis are given a test run down a gentle slope and are classified into A, B, and C groups according to the skill they show in the testing. They, too, must take instruction in how to fall. All the students are taught how to judge the speed of the snow and how to adjust skis and their own behavior to it. There are three groups of students, one of women, one of men, one—the evening class—of men and women. Each group is divided into four squads. Their total number of ski hours runs into staggering figures. Yet, accidents almost never occur.

Year after year members of the A squad (and sometimes even of the B or C squads) have carried off collegiate meet honors. However, the chief aim of the training is not to make champions

A trio of Campcraft majors from Syracuse University enjoy the view from the top of Silver Lake Mountain

but to make all members of the class, from beginners on, good skiers. The goal is long range—to give these boys and girls the basic skills so that they may continue the sport with pleasure and finesse—and safety—when their college days are over.

Skating is added to skiing for the winter carnival program. Students are trained in ballet groups on skates and as individual and figure skaters. Competing events are graded on skills so that all those who wish to participate may do so, in both skating and skiing categories. These are strictly winter events, even though some of the ski classes have been conducted on straw covered slopes on sunny, warm days in fall or early winter.

The outing club program comes between winter sports and summer camping. Bicycle trips, nature lore walks, camping trips, and just plain hikes, each with its incidental training, make up the program. Some day this inbetween fall and spring program may include tennis and golfing, not for the tennis and golf teams, but for all those who wish to acquire these skills, to learn the rules of a new sport.

The summer camping program centers about Tanager Lodge on upper Chateaugay Lake in the Adirondacks. Merrill is the post office, but it is a three mile run across the lake to the nearest hamlet. Early every June a busload of prospective camp counselors, who have already taken a theory course in camp training and a full semester's work in camp fundamentals, alight at the station, get into boats and are taken over to Tanager Lodge. The main house is situated on a promentory which extends out into the lake, with narrow bays on either side. There is an infirmary and a dining hall, and smaller dormitories or sleeping tents as the students prefer.

Many school programs may have a week-end or even a week's conference in their physical education program. Syracuse University's course runs for twenty-three days.

Students do not sign up for all classes, but for one major, in campcraft, waterfront, or nature lore. In campcraft they learn how to cook out-of-doors, to pitch tents and make shelters. They take several canoe trips, one of them overnight. They find out what "portage" really means. They learn how to make use of beaver dams, how to pick out a spot for the night, how to go through a forest, how to follow a trail through balsams—and how to do it all with safety, safety for themselves and

When you fall—and of course you will—be sure to do it correctly and with as little harm to yourself as is humanly possible! Women skiers at Syracuse are taught how not to fall (see photograph above), as well as how to do it properly, as shown in the picture below

for the forest. Taking care of many pets which are acquired every season, whether a bird with a broken wing or a motherless racoon, is merely incidental.

Development of the "seeing eye" is the aim of the nature lore major in which counselors are taught how to interest people in the out-of-doors, how to conduct hikes, how to plan games, supervise group activities, do handcraft. The shop course ranges from the cutting of black ash splints, pounding them out and weaving baskets to repairing canoes with birch bark and no nails, making skis and canoe paddles.

The waterfront course is exactly that—swimming, rowing, canoeing, and sailing. It is con-

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The Hanging of the Greens

FOR THIS CEREMONIAL the following program is used:

MUSIC PRELUDE
THE HOLY NIGHT

A Masque with Old French Christmas Songs

When "CHRISTUS NATUS EST," the cock flappeth his wings, the ass twirleth one ear, the ox noddeth his head, and they do all (as hath been foretold) speak aloud. Then do three angels, chanting, disclose the little shed wherein are seen Mary and Joseph sitting and betwixt them the Holy Child, and Mary singeth soft. Then do Three Shepherds draw near, wondering and Three Wise Men do kneel and lay their treasures by the Child.

Then is Joseph suddenly warned to make ready to flee with the young Child and his mother into Egypt. Then do the cock, the raven and all the company of angels and shepherds, together with the audience, sing with a loud voice, "Adeste Fideles."

ADESTE FIDELES

Sung by everyone. First stanza to be sung in Latin.

PROCESSION BEARING GREENS
DECK THE HALL

Sung by everyone.

SPIRIT OF JOY GIVES A TASK TO EACH
DECORATING THE HOUSE

By all those present.

COMING OF THE WAITS
BRINGING IN YULE LOG
YULE LOG CAROL

Sung by everyone.

LIGHTING THE FIRE

Leader: In all ages the fire has been the center of family life. So we gather today, the family of the Young Women's Christian Association, to kindle anew the blessed spirit which pervades this, our Association home, and to dedicate anew this building to friendliness, beauty and love.

Reader: "Kneel always as you light a fire.
Kneel reverently, and thankful be,
For God's unfailing charity,
And on the ascending flame inspire
A little prayer, that shall upbear
The incense of your thankfulness
For this sweet grace of warmth and light.
For here again is sacrifice for your delight."*

Leader: As fire kindles fire,

People: So life inspires life.

Unison: Thus shall his Kingdom come.
May there burn brightly tonight
In each heart a light
That shall welcome the Christ-child home.

A PRAYER FOR THIS HOUSE

SELECTED LINES FROM "FIRST FIRE OF WINTER"
By Abbie Graham

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES
CAROLS

In publishing this ceremonial we are not offering readers of RECREATION something new. "The Hanging of the Greens" was used for several years at the annual Christmas program of the Y.W.C.A. in Wausau, Wisconsin. It was reprinted in the National Recreation Association's *Christmas Book* from the November 1936 issue of *The Womans Press*. It has, however, proved so beautiful a part of the Christmas program wherever presented that we are reprinting it in this, the Christmas number of RECREATION.

Behind the Scenes

For several years the printed program of Wausau's festival within covers of heavenly blue and shining silver has been one of our most treasured Christmas greetings. Knowing this program to be the outgrowth of a membership celebration of several years' standing, we asked the Wausau Association to share its experience through the *Womans Press* with particular reference to such Associations as might not yet have developed a ceremony of their own making. The general secretary, Alma Blandin, takes us behind the scenes and tells us in the order of the above program how the festival came to be.

Music Prelude

For the music prelude we use records on our fine victrola and have grown to like the effect better than singing. It is quieter and less confusing while people are gathering; we include such records as the "Shepherd's Music" from Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" played

* From "Sacrament of Fire," published in *The Vision Splendid* by John Oxenham. Copyrighted by Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., New York City. Reprinted by permission of the estate of John Oxenham.

Print by Gedge Harmon

by the Philadelphia Orchestra, "The First Nowell" by the Flonzaley Quartet, and a group of old carols by the English Singers: "The Holly and the Ivy," "Good Christian Men, Rejoice," "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" and others.

The Holy Night

(by Florence Converse and Kate Stearns Page, G. Schirmer, Inc., 3 East 43rd Street, New York City. $.75.)

"And now beginneth the masque to play," on a stage bathed only in blue light with shepherds singing "King David was a shepherd lad." The cast for the masque is drawn from both grade and high school groups. The girls are growing up in the tradition of the festival and consider it a great honor to be chosen. We use only one angel voice for the Alleluia and the Chant but it is a perfect voice. Three angels wearing soft pink and blue robes—not white—are elevated on steps back of the stage and visible through the center door against a drop of deep blue. The costumes, accumulated over a period of years, and the lanterns carried by the waits were all made in the Association. The papier-mâché heads of the Ox and Ass are wonderful creations, that of the Ox having a most benign expression.

Adeste Fideles

Adeste, fideles, laeti triumphantes,
Venite, venite in Bethlehem;
Natum videte regem angelorum:
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus Dominum.

Procession Bearing Greens

The way our decorations are procured may be of particular interest to those of you far removed from a northern country. Each year two lumberjacks with the crew of the Northern Logging Company, where some of our business girls are employed, get the lovely spruce boughs with cones. Last year "Speeder Bill" snowshoed through eight miles of woods carrying two great sacks of sprays to the railroad. From there they were picked up by one of the men from the mill and brought to our door. Company trucks are pressed into service if any of us go for greens. We have a greens shop in the Association where many people work making wreaths and arranging sprays.

Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly

This is included in many carol collections.

Spirit of Joy

I. I am the spirit of joy!
Here at the Christmas tide,
Where hearts are united,
I come to abide.
Let your candles be lighted,
Your holly be hung,
Your hearth-fire be merry,
Your carols be sung!

II. In this of all houses
The Christ-child will bide;
Make room for his coming;
Throw the door wide!
Hang ye greens for his welcome,
Trim gaily your tree,
Put wreaths in your windows,
Follow me! Follow me!

Coming of the Waits

For the past three years the Waits have been girls not yet employed and just out of high school. Although they do not actually appear until this point in the program, they help with the singing from back stage during the masque. Costumed and carrying lighted lanterns, the Waits enter singing "Here we come a-carolling" (found in many carol collections). They sit on the steps near the piano and lead the group singing whenever it occurs.

The Yule Log

Pages bring in the Yule log and place it on the fire to the accompaniment of "Come bring with a noise" (known as "The Yule Log Procession" in No. 607 of the *New Beacon Octavo,* available for $.15 from Silver Burdett Company, 45 East 17th Street, New York City). The log is gaily bedecked with sprigs of balsam and pine. Concealed in the

boughs are tiny bags of fairy fuel to color the flame.

Our county park commissioner furnishes the log. Months ahead he is on the watch for a proper one so that it can be drying out and seasoning for burning. Our Yule log for this year has been in the basement over twelve months.

Lighting the Fire

The responses in this section, together with the poem "Spirit of Joy," are from a Hanging of the Greens ceremony published in the December 1924 *Womans Press.* (Consult in library.)

Prayer for This House

A poem beginning "May nothing evil cross this door" is found in *This Singing World* by Louis Untermeyer, published by Harcourt, Brace and Company, 383 Madison Avenue, New York City. $3.00.

Abbie Graham's "The First Fire of Winter" is in her *Ceremonials of Common Days,* available for $1.00 from The Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

Lighting the Christmas Candles

Reader: We'll touch the taper in our hearts
To the flame of the advent star
And set the light to burn a path
Where the shadowed places are.
And some who never lift their eyes
To the star that floods the night
May find their way to Bethlehem
By our friendly taper's light.

Following the reading of the poem two pages, dressed in blue suits and blue capes dotted with silver stars and wearing bands of silver in their hair, enter carrying each a tall lighted candle. With their candles they light alternately the tapers of two seven-branched candlesticks on either side of the fireplace while the following words of appreciation are read by the leader. (The lighting is timed exactly to the reading.)

We light a candle for the sheer delight of tasting once more the fresh crisp breath of winter in the air.

We light a candle for the pure white beauty of the fresh-fallen snow.

We light a candle for the light of wonder and surprise in children's eyes as they greet Christmas morn.

We light a candle for the sound of children's voices carolling sweet and clear.

We light a candle for the tinkling bells of Christmas cheer.

We light a candle for the snow-crowned lights of city streets that guide us by their friendly glow.

We light a candle for the dancing flames and warmth of blazing hearth-log.

We light a candle for the delicate tracery of flowers and ferns that fairies of the night paint on our window-pane.

We light a candle for the winter winds that sing their way through tall stately pines.

We light a candle for the silhouette of bare trees against a gray and wintry sky.

We light a candle for the fragrance of pine and balsam brought from forest depths to grace our homes.

We light a candle for the million twinkling stars that stud the velvet sky of night.

We light a candle for the winter moon, the gentle queen of night, who wears a silver robe and crown of light.

We light a candle for the peace and love within the homes where the Christ-child has entered in.

Leader: The symbolic shining lights of all these candles we now gather into the flame of the Association's candle. May its radiance find in our hearts a response to the meaning of Christmas. Each day at dusk, throughout this festive season, it shall be lighted to remind us by its holy light that the Christ-child has entered here. To the presidents of clubs in this Association I give the responsibility of seeing that this candle is lighted each night at dusk so that its golden flame shall bear a friendly greeting from our hall to all who pass this way. Will you bear it now to its place?

Reader: To light a candle in a darkened room
And call to be
These flames of light
For our delight
Is radiant joy.

Who sends a pointed flame into the night
For clear sight
Of anyone
Has thus begun
A miracle.

And those who sit beside a candle's glow
May never go
In poverty
For rich is he
In golden light.

This litany has been built up around interesting bits of beauty which girls of all groups have collected over a long period. When rearranged by our Young Women's Council for final form the girls' own phrases were used as much as possible and a definite effort made to give rhythm and musical feeling to this section. The two poems were taken from back issues of the *Bookshelf.* For several years we have neither added to nor made changes in this part of the ceremony, although each year following the festival a committee meets to discuss possible ways of improving it. We have

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Decorations by the Family

If you have forgotten how to use paper and berries and fruit on your Christmas tree, or if you grew up in an era which never knew a home-decorated tree, you will find directions for making chains, strings of popcorn, balls, and other decorations as well in a reprint from the November 1942 issue of RECREATION entitled *Christmas Novelties for Everyone*, which is available from the National Recreation Association at ten cents.

DOING THINGS TOGETHER with the people you know best has always been fun. Once upon a time that was a foregone conclusion. It didn't even need to be mentioned because it was just taken for granted as part of the whole normal scheme of life. The family, with a few neighbors maybe, made their fun together because they enjoyed the same things. Somehow, somewhere along the years we have forgotten that. It has seemed increasingly hard to get Mother and Dad, Sis and "that pest" Junior, Aunt Emily and Sally, aged six, to sit down together in the same place at the same time and have fun over a common project. It has been too easy to go off somewhere else and find some other sort of entertainment. It has been too hard to find an interest that would unify instead of divide.

Well, it's high time we put more thought and effort into knowing the whole family as a group, emphasizing the similarities of our kinship instead of those individual differences that tend to separate us from one another. Here is a way to start.

The families that can't "get together" over Christmas are few and far between. Most family groups have their own private Christmas customs and traditions that are (or should be) dragged out each year and observed and enjoyed together. So Christmas is a good place to start doing things together—against a well-loved familiar background of past experience.

There's a special reason why this Christmas of 1944 is a good time to start a new Christmas tradition, the tradition of making things together. Reports from the shopping front don't look very rosy for Christmas decorations, 1944. Those last minute excursions on Christmas eve to pick up a couple of reindeer for the door-wreath, or red and blue balls for the tree (the cat ate up last year's red ones and little Sally just couldn't keep her hands off the blue jobs) just aren't going to be possible. Reindeer take a special kind of craftsmanship being put to other uses now. Those balls were made in Japan and at the moment we have other business with those islands. Even if you obey all the warnings and do your Christmas shopping early, the odds are against your finding in the stores the things you will want and need.

The easy thing to do is to decide to give up the tree this year, and the wreath on the door as well. The tree has always been a headache and you've only kept the custom up for the sake of the children. But, think carefully. If you do that won't there be an emptiness, come Christmas morning—for you as well as for the youngsters? Your door will look kind of bare without some decoration to welcome your friends with gaiety and to tell the passing stranger that Christmas is being kept within. And the family will feel cheated if the house and the Christmas table wear just ordinary dress. After all, in spite of battle, murder and sudden death, war and separation, Christmas is special and demands a special garb. The family together can take the hurdle by making all the decorations that could possibly be needed.

Materials No Problem!

What are you going to do about materials? That's an easy one. Use what you can get plus a little ingenuity. After all it hasn't been so very many years ago that nobody did anything else! You will be glad when the day comes that you went to the trouble. There will be less trouble if you do some planning ahead of time. Set aside special times for the whole family to get together with scissors, and paste pot, paper and paint. Plan an excursion to the nearest woods or fields to collect the materials that grow there. With everybody picking there will soon be enough.

Now, what substitutes can you use? You can probably dig back in your memory (or in the memory of your elderly neighbor next door) and find bits and pieces of lore stored from Christmases past and gone. Here are a few suggestions to start the ball a-rolling:

Decorate your tree with paper chains (*colored* paper, if you please!) and cranberry strings, popcorn balls and glazed apples, cornucopias and candy canes, gingerbread boys and gingerbread girls, and, for the top, a clothespin angel.

Clothespin Angel

Here is the way you go about fashioning an angel from a clothespin: Start ⅜" from the open end of your clothespin and wrap and paste pink crepe paper ½" wide to within 1⅜" of the end. Cut the angel's wings, halo and arms according to the pattern from letter paper. Paste blue crepe paper to both sides of the wings, and peach crepe paper to both sides of the arms and halo. Decorate the wings and halo with gold star seals. Paste center of the wings to the back of the clothespin. Paste the arms in place so that they are holding a candle made of a strip of letter paper ½" x 1" and topped with a star seal. Paint features on knob of the clothespin and tie a white bow around the neck leaving ends long enough to tie on the tree.

Winter Berries a Boon

The winter berries are a boon to harassed decorators. Mountain ash, hawthorne, thorn apple, bittersweet, bayberry, cedar berries, high bush cranberries, barberry—the very names are redolent of millions of Christmases—are colorful and can be prepared easily to last through the Christmas season. Give the berries a coat of shellac (or a reasonable facsimile in these war times) and thread them on a string before they are dry if you plan to make them into ornaments (bells, stars, garlands). Or use them "as is" for table or mantle decora-

tions. Bayberry is especially effective in the center of a green-banked mantle flanked with red candles.

Burdocks (because they *do* stick together) can be made into effective ornaments. Go "modernistic" with them if you have the urge. Red enamel or gilt paint will do wonders for the "docks." Use your imagination, a dash of paint, and an end of ribbon, on pine cones, milkweed pods, small leaves and branches, nuts of all kinds. They make right handsome ornaments for the tree or table.

Peanuts Aplenty

Peanuts in the shell are readily available this year. Buy them by the pound for Christmas tree decorations. Because, just see what you can do with them. Santa Clauses, angels, skiers, gilt and silver chains, pert little girls ready for a Christmas whirl will make an unusual and endlessly amusing splash on your tree. You will need a spool or two of buttonhole thread, a big darning needle, finger paint and nail polish, gold and silver radiator paint, cotton and scraps of paper or cloth, yarn or ribbon to effect this metamorphosis from "gubber" to ornament. The drawings will give you an idea how it's done. String the peanuts together before you paint them. The unpainted shells will be easier to pierce. If you want gold and silver peanut chains, mix up your paint in a shallow tray or a pie tin and pull the strung peanuts through the mixture. Be sure to swish them around a bit so there won't be any unpainted spots! If you want to be really fancy with your figures, you can do a little costume research and develop a whole set of characters—the Cratchit family and Scrooge for instance, or a group of Polish or Czech peasants in native dress, or a peanut crèche.

For the Front Door

For that Christmas welcome on the front door there is nothing lovlier or more in keeping with the spirit of the season — American style — than plain old pine boughs. They don't have to be "snitched" on the dark of the moon from your neighbor's long-leaf pine or Norway spruce, either! Scrub pine or bull pine (or for that matter magnolia leaves or any other dark "greenery") is every bit as good. With a hunk of green for background you can go to town with elaborating ideas. Every member of the family will probably think up a different angle for putting color into the picture. In fact you may find yourself with more ideas than doors. Don't let that bother you. A decoration for the door will make a welcome Christmas remembrance to your acquaintances who have less ingenuity than you and your family —or who are just plain lazy. Only, if you're planning such a contribution you'd better warn the recipients in advance so they won't try to save money on Uncle Bill's necktie to pay for a store-bought wreath! You can dress up the green background with pine cones or seed pods or gourds either in their natural state or embellished with paint. Use poster paints. Or you can do it the French way with fruits. Lady apples and kumquats are especially effective. Cedar berries — if you live in cedar country — or bayberries, mixed with pine are simple and very lovely. Stick a piece of red ribbon (or several strands of heavy wool braided together) where most needed in a smart and jaunty bow—and hang conspicuously. Cheap, effective, non-rationed, and fun for the whole family to work on.

The list of Christmas decorations is endless. So go to it, family! You can feast all five of your senses while you're about it. Put a piece of cedar on the radiator where it will give fragrance to the whole house, a cookie jar on the table where everyone can reach it, and make plenty of popcorn for tummies as well as for decorations. Your eyes will be filled to satisfaction with colors and shapes and your fingers will rejoice in the feel of living materials. Your ears? That's simple. In the words of the old carol, "Carol, Brothers, Carol." Sing individually and collectively. Sing all the carols everybody knows. There's nothing like the Christmas spirit for wiping the cobwebs out of your soul and the essence of the Christmas spirit is having fun, as a family, together.

Other ideas promoting conservation as well as Christmas cheer come from Dr. and Mrs. Rountree of San Angelo, Texas, who write that since they live in the land of cacti and sand they have decided to make their Christmas tree a cactus, which they will silver and place in a bucket of sand. Old Christmas decorations will be cleaned and repainted, and hung on colored toothpicks in place of the thorns. Remnants of gay wallpaper will be used as wrappings for presents.

Penny postcards, the Rountrees suggest, may be used to carry Christmas greeetings. "If they are original in fashion, your friends will not care if the meter or rhyme is faulty."

Pattern for Fun

By RUTH JORDAN PETERSON

Mrs. Peterson is one of the assistant women supervisors at the Boeing Aircraft Company. She has long been associated with the recreation program in Seattle, having worked before the war as a volunteer in the recreation agencies of the city. She is said to have established the first teen canteen in the West.

"IF THERE was only some place where the kids could meet—you like to be where the other guys are. The Army took over the play field and the field house and that spoiled our fun at the park. There's nothing to do but go to a show. No matter how swell the show is, you still want to see the fellows."

That was the answer that Chad gave when the father of one of his pals took him aside with four other fine neighborhood boys and urged them never to be caught again in a compromising position where there might even be a suspicion of "fuzzy thinking." That had happened to them when they were found with a group of older people who had been drinking. All of the boys appreciated the good advice and asked for help in providing some form of constructive recreation.

One of the mothers, overhearing the conversation and feeling that nothing is too hard to try if it means fine manhood, took the incident as a personal challenge to each parent to provide a physical and material background for fellowship among the youngsters of the community.

First of all, she tried to picture in her own mind what the actual requirements of such a challenge were. It meant warmth, cheer, friendliness and smart activity. It meant a place modern and "grown-up" and in style, "canteen" in the best sense of the word—a spot where all were welcome and the "cup overfloweth"—a spot where the youths themselves were to carry out the plans for the fun and the mothers and dads were to supervise by pitching in and helping—cooking and dish washing—not standing around as chaperones with an eagle eye. She called together a group of four interested mothers, and they formulated the general outline of the Teen Canteen.

The presentation of the idea had a perfect setting, which no doubt made all the difference between success and failure. The high school principal, feeling keenly the natural influence of his position in the community, called together representatives of the most influential groups in the community, presented the problem, explained the need of parental and social responsibility, and together they felt the pulse of youth. They looked for the particular needs of youth in that particular location.

The Teen Canteen suggestion was broadly outlined. On the whole it was enthusiastically received. Many critical questions were asked, but all who were there left the meeting feeling it was a good idea and worth a try.

A committee consisting of a cross section of the high school student body and community groups was appointed, and met with the parental group. When told of the Teen Canteen idea, they said of it—

"Slick!"

"There should be more community interest in giving us the right kind of entertainment. If you did that, you'd stop juvenile delinquency."

"It takes more than community interest. It takes giving the students the kind of entertainment they want so it will be something they want to go to and not just something their mothers send them to."

"We'd like a place where we could meet, maybe on Friday and Saturday nights, maybe on more nights. A place where we could meet, sit and talk, play games or dance."

As soon as the students accepted the idea, a centrally located field house, which had not been properly furnished and had not been used for a year, was chosen as the setting for the project. The Park Department completely refurnished it in clubhouse fashion, and the Park Department attendants were delighted to fit the idea into their activity program.

The local P.T.A. then stepped into the picture, took the responsibility for the field house, and used its influence in many ways for smooth community contacts. The city P.T.A. president did the necessary "coordinating," and helped guide the young people.

With the physical setup guaranteed, the idea became a most constructive project for youth. Leaders were chosen, and committees were formed which met and discussed and formulated standards of conduct and procedure. They conducted polls to get opinions and suggestions and waded through the formulation of a new idea by democratic procedure.

A set of standards and rules was chosen after many discussions involving such subjects as these: hours, age limit, type of dress, rowdyism, boistrousness, smoking, liquor, and general plans for entertainment.

The mothers and fathers stood by inconspicuously but they provided mature leadership. The committee of mothers provided the rationed food. The fathers helped cook and wash dishes. Various menus were tried, but the most successful evenings seemed to be those when substantial food like hot dogs or hamburgers was served. Always "cokes" were the favorite drink, but milk was popular, too. Interesting to find was the fact that very shortly all financial worries were over, for after the first few times there was enough profit in the treasury to serve free food once in a while.

The Teen Canteen was successful. It unified parental thinking and action. It was a project which kept a great number of children occupied in mind and spirit. They formulated ideals and principles realistically, some for the first time in their lives, and they were forced to coordinate them and see how important simple rules of conduct and policy are when they concern a large group. They were serious and sincere, and such an experience was a broad step in character building in the life of each student who took an active part. To formulate ideas is important. To have a hand in working them out is stimulating and acts as an incentive to future projects. It has a lasting effect.

The statistics proved how far reaching was the effect of this successful project. In one year the number of children using park facilities jumped from 700 to 5,800. Heretofore, when programs were planned for special occasions, it was difficult to get an audience. Now the house is full of enthusiastic listeners. There has been evidence of drinking at some of the other organized parties held at the field house, but never a bit at the Teen Canteen. The students themselves have met that issue and have earnestly enforced their own regulation covering it.

It used to be almost impossible to get parental interest and attendance at parties as host and hostess or even as good committee members. Now parents are signed up in advance and fulfill their obligations. The committee of mothers who so earnestly tried to understand their growing children has worked out a parental procedure which meets the young people's qualifications and sanction.

The project has been so challenging and helpful that the Park Department representatives say: "Please help us keep the Teen Canteen." It has been a real stimulus to planned youth activity. The possibilities of a project of this type are immeasurable. Its influence could permeate all youth activities in an entire community. It could be a headquarters for such organizations as the National Victory Corps group; it could be a training center for Nurses Aide Classes and Red Cross activities, hobby classes, handcraft — a meeting place and discussion laboratory for youth in the process of development.

There is a great adjustment ahead for our youth. They must be mentally and physically strong and active, and they will always need some form of recreational and leisure guidance. Our experiment has shown that the democratic way of life is imbedded in our youth, and when the chance presents itself, they act subconsciously in a democratic manner. It is a process built into the minds and lives of our youth which they understand and work with naturally. They see it as a practical ideal which may be used as an instrument for action. They also see that democracy is a natural approach to meeting their responsibilities and attaining their goals.

"The leaders of the future are now with us. Some of them are hovering in alleys, with no decent place to go. Others are finding expression for inherent urges in devious and dangerous ways. We cannot make good citizens out of bad conditions; we cannot expect wholesome character to develop without culture. We shall not save our American form of government, our own pattern of life, solely by fighting strange beliefs and new ways. For dissatisfaction is the breeding ground of change. And youth's life is at present unfulfilled. The scales of justice still balance. For if youth's fate is in our hands today, our own must eventually rest upon the character and the training of the leaders of the future." — *Lena M. Phillips.*

By and for Employees

By FRANK L. HAAS
Larchmont Personnel Director
Bell & Howell Company
Chicago, Illinois

INDUSTRIAL recreation? What's new about that? Bell & Howell Company, makers of motion picture equipment and electronic devices, have had a recreation program since 1907, the year the company was founded. Increased employee opportunities and recreational developments have gone hand in hand with a remarkable industrial growth. The company has five offices, in Chicago, Washington, New York, Hollywood, and London. The program for employees in the Chicago area, while not necessarily unique, is exceptional in the amount of employee participation and the variety of activities.

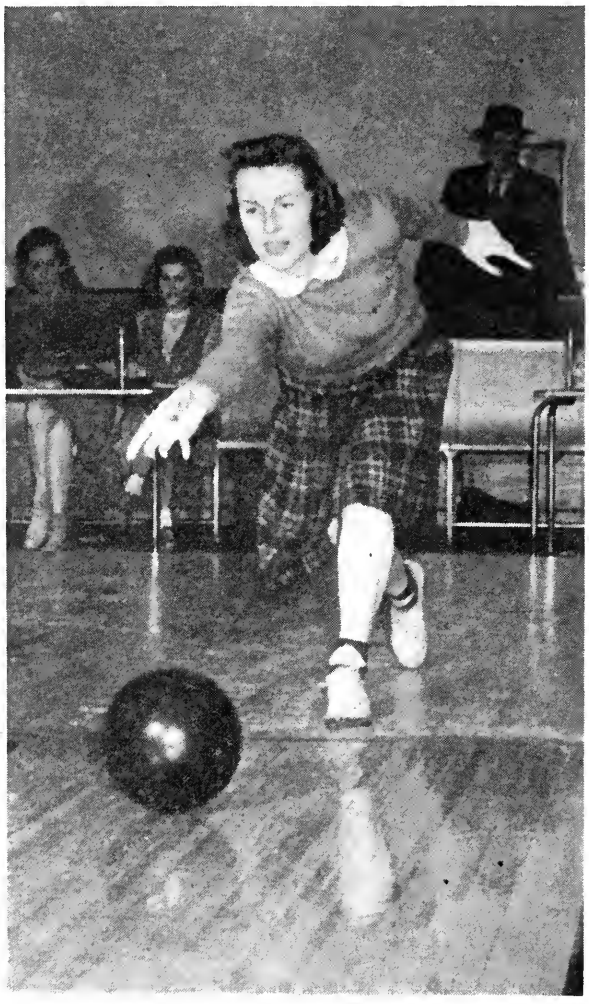
Program Planning

About 3,000 people take part in the program. A full-time director of recreation and two clerical secretaries are kept busy the year round helping plan employee activities through employee committees. The committees, men and women, represent a cross-section of five plants in the Chicago area. There are three standing committees. A head committee acts as a governing body to control policies and expenditures. Two subcommittees, one for sports, the other for social affairs, work as legislative bodies and make formal recommendations to the governing committee, with direct responsibility for carrying out, or having carried out, the functional work of the subcommittees. The committees are responsible for the ultimate success of every program or of any part of it.

Available Facilities

Chicago is rich in municipal recreation facilities. The Bell & Howell Company uses all of them fully. Parks, playgrounds, picnic groves, golf courses, auditoriums, gymnasiums, beaches, party rooms maintained by the city are suitable meeting grounds for many Bell & Howell employees. In addition the company has developed its own ten-acre recreation park. Adjoining the park is the new Lincolnwood plant with club rooms, movie salon, cafeteria-auditorium. Here during off hours in the morning and afternoon as well as in the evening and on Sundays, the employees find tools of play conveniently at hand.

Bowling for both men and women is high in popularity during the winter season



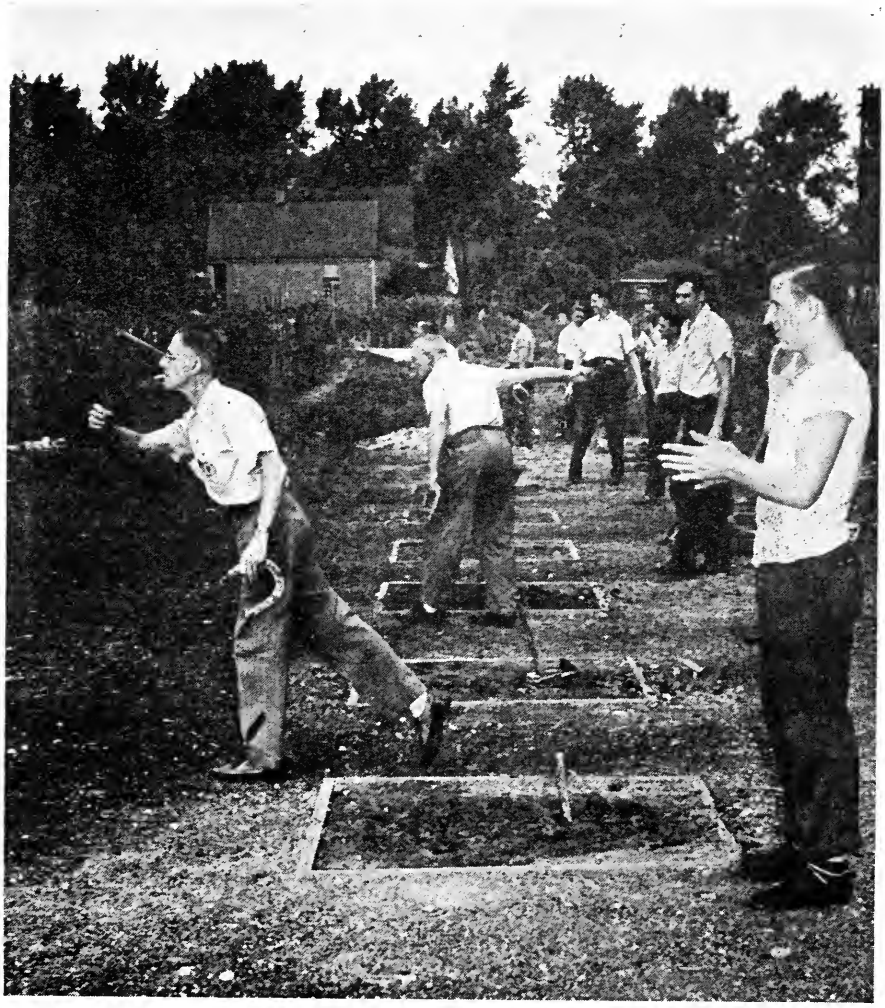
Activities in the Program

The program worked out by the committees under professional guidance is, of course, completely voluntary. It is well-planned, interesting, highly socialized, and planning was not easy because the program (for 3,000 people, remember) must suit the interests of both men and women who vary in age from 16 to 65. They vary in taste almost as widely. Dances, theatrical productions, parties, picnics, bowling, photo contests, softball, horseshoe pitching, basketball, golf, handball, and beach outings — some-

where in that list is something to appeal to each of the Bell & Howell employees who participate in the Chicago area's activities. The participants are a high percentage of the whole working group.

Employee services, too, are cared for by the recreation committee, which looks after wedding gifts, remembrances sent workers in hospitals, war bond and stamp drives, photographic and film service, insurance and pension information, and money for incidental services.

The management has realized for a long time that morale is a particular state of mind. Unless it is maintained at a high level public relations, safety, and personal accomplishment will suffer. A healthy state of morale adds to the employee's fulfillment of a rich and complete life. A full and satisfying recreation program keeps morale high. When the workers themselves have an important and integral part in planning the program, when they feel a responsibility for its success, when they have a chance to evaluate, to criticize, and to change what seems bad, the program will be good and morale right up there where it ought to be.



Horseshoe pitching courts are in demand during the noon hour periods, and much interest centers around the individual plant tournaments

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Possible winter activities for girls at the Massena, New York, plant of the Aluminum Company of America include skating parties, hockey or broom ball games, and an ice carnival, which is the outstanding event of the winter program. Interest in skiing is keen. Among the most popular of the indoor sports are bowling, most popular of all, and basketball.

The Crosley Corporation sent two decks of playing cards to each of the company's employees in service. The following message accompanied the gift: "We're not forgetting that you used to work with us, and that you are now fighting for us. You have been away for a long time now and we've missed you. . . . A very Merry Christmas to you wherever you are, and our sincerest wishes that you may spend next Christmas at home."

"It is obviously impossible to set up a standard recreation program for industrial workers. The man who spends his free time hunting or fishing does not understand his neighbor's delight in bowling. The woman whose chief recreation is playing bridge or knitting lifts an eyebrow at her neighbor's obsession for swimming or badminton, while the man who collects stamps is very likely to think his friend a little queer for putting his time and effort into playing softball."—From *Recreation for Workers,* issued by the National Recreation Association.

"Do Touch" Museums

By ROSE MARY SANDS

Museums in England, as in our own country, are being "dusted off," and "Don't Touch" signs are disappearing

THE GEFFRYE Museum in Shoreditch, London, had "Don't Touch" written in three-inch thick dust all over it!

Local school children were encouraged to make periodic visits to it, and groups of reverent, awe-inspired, rather bored youngsters made a "duty call" every six months. They saw the Tudor Room, the Chippendale Room, the Early Victorian Room. They looked, listened—and forgot.

Then, about three years ago, a young married woman—Molly Harrison—was appointed acting curator of the Museum, and with her arrival in the story all preconceived ideas of a museum must leave your head. Everything started to change, except Shoreditch, which offered the rising generation its brightest gifts—the cinema, the streets to play in, and school with a crammed curriculum.

Down at the Geffrye Museum the "Don't Touch" law was dropped. The children were encouraged to use their Museum and were taught how to handle the precious heritages of history. They started to acquire the habit of "dropping in" on their way home from school. There was a new atmosphere of enjoyment about the place, and there were new ideas for them to explore and play with.

Now so many children come to the Geffrye Museum in holiday time that the problem is where to put them all. There are often as many as 250 girls and boys visiting the place in a day. They play, paint, weave on hand looms, listen to the gramophone, admire the "brass rubbing" from the city churches. In summer they play in the garden with its plane trees and bright petunias, and on the hottest days of all, the garden hose turns itself into a shower.

"Can we play one of your special games?" A member of the staff hands out pencils and large pieces of ruled paper. A small group of children start off, others join. The Museum was really coming to life.

"I'm going to choose Elizabeth—No! Charles. No! Elizabeth, she's easier to draw." So, up against the typewritten words at the top of the page, "These people . . ." Mary, aged nine, drew the outline of a farthingaled lady of the 15th century. Then came the fun. Below the drawing it said: "These people sat on . . .", "These people rode in . . .", and so on through all manner of activities of food, furnishing, and sport. The game was to fill in—in outline and crayon — the kind of chair, house, wagon, wood to fit the particular period. The game was competitive.

Before the war, Saturdays weren't so bad for the school children. Mother was cooking, father would be home in the afternoon. Now father is in the Navy and mother is in munitions, and young Harry, aged eleven, has to amuse himself. What's first? First the rations to buy, the fire to light, the potatoes to peel, and then the Museum at eleven sharp.

Harry rushes off to learn pottery, weaving, drawing, modeling. He spends every Saturday morning at the Geffrye Museum taking turns about with handcrafts. Most of his school friends are there, too. Mary has just finished making a papier-mâché puppet's head. It is a fearsome witch with nose and chin meeting. She designed and colored it herself, and now it has to be dressed in scraps of cotton and wool, with black hair and a high hat. Next week there is to be the first rehearsal for the puppet show. Mary is going to work her witch and be its voice, and Harry is stage directing and being three characters and the noises off!

Shoreditch is a part of London which has thousands of houses to the square mile . . . narrow streets, alleys, backyards. It is a grey, working class district, huge areas of which have been laid flat by bombs and fire. After the war there is no doubt that well-planned flats, parks and schools will be built there, but nevertheless, if only because twenty shillings have to do the work of thirty down in this East borough, the lives, recreations, and outlook of those living there will always be very restricted.

It is against that general background that this experiment in education is being made. It is not

a new theory in how to teach; it is an experiment in how to live. The material is the school child; the test tube, the Museum.

Sir Robert Geffrye of the Ironmongers Company built a fine, broad brick house in the 18th century and endowed it as an almshouse for the poor. After his death the London County Council acquired a collection of antiques. These were eventually housed in Sir Robert's empty almshouse, and the Geffrye Museum became just another museum on the long list which visitors to London visited and which Londoners overlooked!

Today it is playing a big part, culturally and vocationally, in the life of the district.

Some of the handcraft lessons are held in the Big Hall — one whole side of the Museum — which is left free for exhibitions. These exhibitions are the joy and delight of the school children. They never know what is coming next, and each new one seems to be even better than the last. They have seen the embroidery exhibition of old and new work; they've seen the housing exhibition, but the favorite is always work done by other children of their age. They have seen paintings and drawings by American school children and work sent over from Turkey. The very latest exhibition of all—prepared by the top class of a local school—showed man's fight and victory over environment. This turned out to be so good that it was thought worthy of a three weeks' show at Geffrye. Young Shoreditch was thrilled and even inspired to try its hand at the same idea.

Groups of children wandered around looking, comparing, discussing. They got the thread of the idea and spent long hours trying to find a mistake in the children's drawings and models and charts. "You've got that wrong, you should have given that cart rubber wheels." The challenge was accepted. "Rubber wasn't discovered when those people lived." "Not discovered," says the scornful Shoreditch boy. "Rubber has always been discovered." 'Tis and 'tisn't are bandied round and Mrs. Harrison is asked to come and decide. The children gather round her and she gets them to ask questions, asks them for their opinions, makes them think it out and reason. Eventually it is conceded that the model is right and a good many children now know a good deal more about rubber, its properties, its discovery, and limitations . . . and they will remember because they made an effort to find out for themselves.

But even exhibitions and Saturday mornings dim beside the pleasure the Geffrye Museum offers in holiday time. Journeys aren't taken in wartime unless they are really necessary, and holidays, unless they are for harvesting crops and fruit, are spent at home. A great deal of fun and amusement has been organized for the Londoner, but still, it's good to get right away from home, especially the home with no garden, and dull views of grey brick.

If you lived that life, you would like the chance to see the Ballet, to explore old churches, to see Kew Gardens and Hampton Court. You can imagine what it means to a Shoreditch child of fourteen. It is a new life, a world outside his imagination. The Museum is a window opening to a horizon no one had mentioned to him. It brings

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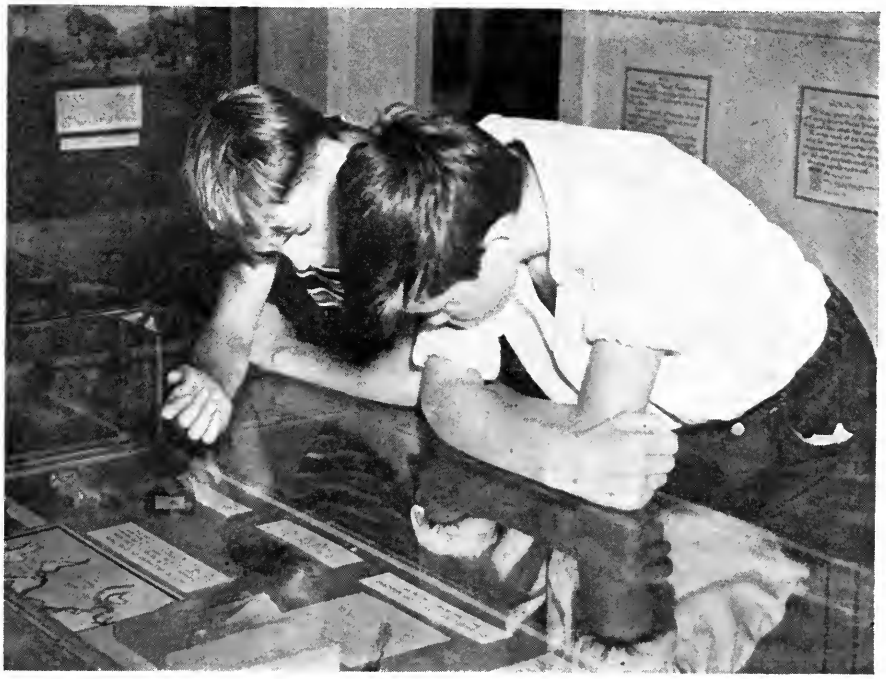
The Geology Room of the Kansas City Museum offers rock specimens of absorbing interest



What They Say About Recreation

"STUDIES HAVE repeatedly shown that slums breed crime and disease, that a large volume of unemployment is due to illness, that organized, wholesome recreation facilities provide the outlet which might otherwise be found in delinquent behavior. Certainly there is nothing inappropriate in a public welfare official's telling the community that decent housing, good health measures, and adequate provision for recreation will reduce the need for assistance. . . ."—From Editorial in *Public Welfare,* July 1944.

"Children learn by playing, although that isn't why they play. They play because they enjoy it, because it is fun and they need fun as they need food, sunshine, and sleep." — *Dorothy Bradbury* and *Edna Amidon* in *Learning to Care for Children.*

"The child who likes to draw or to participate in other forms of art activity is more likely to be a healthy, normal child than he is to be a budding artistic genius. His art expression is a natural response to the impulse to create, just as are singing, dancing, acting, and storytelling with words." —*Vienna Curtis.*

"There is no end to the needs, and there is no limit to the accomplishments of the human hand. Arts and crafts, in the shop or in our homes, offer sound media for recreating us. There is no delight equaling that derived from the trade-mark on an article, 'Made by me.' "—*Samuel H. Johnson.*

"Perhaps if we stop to think about *how* children play we shall all gain a better understanding of what our role in the child's play world should be and can be."—From *At Home with Children,* by *Charlotte G. Garrison* and *Emma Dickson Sheehy.*

"The right to work, usefully and creatively, through the productive years. . . . The right to education, for work, for citizenship, and for personal growth and happiness. . . . The right to rest, recreation, and adventure; the opportunity to enjoy life and take part in advancing civilization." —Extract from statement issued by the *National Resources Planning Board.*

"In a democracy, national morale is what the people make it as they live and work and play together. Nothing else can take its place." — From *Education for a Strong America.*

"We believe that a democratic way of living offers the best opportunity for human development that the world knows at present, and that the school, the classroom, and the playground are places where children and adults can participate daily in such living." — From resolution adopted by the *Association for Childhood Education.*

"There are few finer things in life than friendliness. It is one of the fundamental virtues, and probably as useful as any other."—*Fred A. Dibble.*

"Today we hear a great deal of discussion about national defense. Back on the home front, play in its best sense is an armor in itself, a shield against lack of faith and understanding. In the end, surely no mechanized force of lawlessness and greed can make any headway against a tried and tested way of learning, a way of happiness, a way of understanding."—*Josephine Blackstock.*

"Romp with the family, visit with friends, take walks, play games—or do whatever you like to give your mind and body a change from the daily grind on the job. 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.' " — From *Institute of Life Insurance.*

"The life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness which we have claimed for man belongs without any specific declaration to childhood. No one has a better right to be happy than a child. This right is innate in every ring of laughter, every reaching out of childhood's arms and hearts toward that essential world of theirs which so few adults may enter."—From *New York Herald Tribune.*

"The give-and-take experiences of the playground are valuable in teaching children to respect the individuality of others, as well as to recognize their own dignity and worth." — *Warren W. McSpadden.*

Let's Have Living Memorials

By LOUIS BROMFIELD

A plea for war memorials which will take the form "not of dead stones and cast iron, but of living trees and parks, lakes and clean streams."

"Most of the boys who lost their lives in this war, as in all wars, loved the out-of-doors. They loved trees, and swimming, and fishing."

FOR MORE THAN seventy-five years in this country we have been raising "dead" memorials to those of our sons, brothers and children who have fallen in wars in defense of our country. During that period our cities and countryside became cluttered with "memorials" of all sizes from the standardized figure in cast iron of an undersized Civil War soldier leaning on his rifle to great groups of bronze or cast iron statuary surrounded by pyramids of cannon balls and garlands of chains.

There is no estimate of the money expended on these "memorials" but it has run easily into many millions of dollars, invested in "dead" objects producing after a few years time little more than a sense of aesthetic distaste in the heart even of the most casual passerby. Many an otherwise beautiful avenue or square has been marred by statues and structures erected through the sincere but perhaps misguided desire of past generations to leave behind something by which the soldier and sailor might be remembered. The citizens of many a city or town today wish there were some way of removing these local monstrosities or replacing them with something more beautiful and more useful to future generations.

Lately there has grown up spontaneously throughout the country a move to make of the memorials to the dead of this war something not only beautiful but useful, which will contribute to the health, well-being and strength of the nation in the future. I have discovered the impulse in the minds of many wise citizens as well as in the plans of organizations and planning commissions, from Washington all the way to small towns and villages in the middle west.

The plans for a new kind of memorial have manifested themselves in many ways. The possibilities of course, are endless. Frankly those projects which have interested me most are those which have to do with the out-of-doors. Several communities have under consideration plans for local forests to be dedicated to the boys who went abroad but did not return—memorials in the form of living trees which provide recreational areas and provide a useful part in the growing national interest in the anchoring of our soil and the restoration of our waning natural resources. Other projects include the building of lakes in areas where lakes are a rarity, or the establishment of parks and other recreational areas.

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"Stayintown" Recreation

By LOWELL AMES NORRIS
Director of Promotion and Mobile Recreation
Westchester County Recreation Commission

Mobile recreation has come to stay in Westchester County, New York, where "stayintown" programs have captured the popular imagination

WESTCHESTER, like most portions of the Eastern United States, was threatened early with forced curtailment of much of their normal recreation activities as a part of a necessary contribution to the war effort. One solution to this problem, which has helped ease the situation and offers untold possibilities in the postwar world to come, has been developed over the past few months by the Westchester County Recreation Commission which has its headquarters in the County Office Building, White Plains, New York.

It is Mobile Recreation — a term purposely vague and elastic so as to include the many and varied services which the County Recreation Commission does and can offer communities working as always in cooperation with local recreation commissions in and about the county.

For Westchester, that rich and picturesque rolling country lying to the north of New York City, has felt the pinch of the war emergency as acutely as any district in the gas-starved eastern area. While its cities and adjacent villages have enjoyed adequate public transportation facilities, smaller and outlying communities have found themselves literally marooned. No longer is it possible for them to participate in the usual commercial recreation activities offered by larger towns and cities miles distant, for these are practically inaccessible save by automobile and such means of travel has been unpatriotic. Therefore, if the residents of such communities are to be allowed to participate in any recreation activities, programs must be brought to them.

Stayintown Programs the Answer

It was for this primary purpose that the resources of mobile recreation were mobilized early in 1944 with the inauguration of Stayintown Programs by County Recreation for county-wide participation.

The nature of such programs required much thought and consideration. There was little money to spend upon ambitious plans; therefore we were compelled to draw upon resources common to most American communities. Although sound movies were intended to play an important part, it was neither desirable, practical, nor possible to book films which would even attempt to compete with commercial entertainment projects. Furthermore, as wisely stipulated by E. Dana Caulkins, Superintendent of the Commission, all county presentations must include the fundamental factor so important to all recreational programs — the factor which for want of a better phrase as far as Stayintown Programs were concerned — we termed "audience participation." None of us felt that such participation would be completely met by the inclusion of community singing on all programs. Not all people like to sing—yet their recreational needs were as important as their song-minded neighbors. Therefore we cast around for other features although community singing remained a *must*. We also felt that in addition to recreational pleasure derived from community-wide participation, some of the Stayintown shows should contribute seriously to wartime and postwar education. We agreed each particular unit must possess real audience appeal and be of a nature sufficiently dramatic to have it received upon its own merits as well as suitable for indoor production.

State Police to the Rescue!

The New York State Police were the first to recognize the value of such service and Superintendent John A. Gaffney, through Lieutenant Daniel F. Glasheen, commanding Troop K at Hawthorne, offered real cooperation in accord with Governor Dewey's edict seeking to stimulate juvenile advancement and cooperation to maintain law and order on the home front. Real live-in-the-flesh state police bloodhounds that play important parts in tracking down criminals and rescuing lost persons together with their trainer, Corporal W. W. Horton, feature the State Police program. A special demonstration is staged at every presentation with the dogs tracking down some member of the audience volunteering as a "fugitive," who hides himself somewhere in the auditorium. So far the animals have always got their man!

There are exciting sound motion pictures on

hit-and-run driving with a youth talk by State Police Lieutenant C. P. Curtin, who warns against crime and emphasizes this warning with behind-the-scene tales of lawbreakers apprehended by a clue as intangible as a splinter of headlight glass or a broken radiator cap. Another film highlights the need of traffic safety, and State Police Sergeant C. B. Van Allen follows up with an informal talk on the same subject in which the youngsters in the audience delightedly join. Community singing opens and closes the program, and the local police chief acts as co-chairman with the local recreation executive who has the program in charge.

Enter the FBI

Following their premiere in Ossining on March 18th, 1944, before an enthusiastic audience of close to a thousand men, women and children, many requests for programs came to the County Recreation Commission and it became obvious more programs should be available. Through the courtesy of E. E. Conroy, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York City, a second program unit was added "The FBI at War on the Home Front." Sound movies gave graphic pictures of the work of this law enforcement agency, and a special operative talks on actual cases, including the inside story of the German spies who landed from U-boats on American soil; the United States Navy, through the WAVES assigned Navy personnel to Mobile Recreation for a special WAVES program together with official battle films, and the Macfadden Publications followed through with the loan of a specially made Hollywood film— "I'll Tell the World"—on the history of advertising, which was shown at their pavilion during the New York World's Fair. Others indicated a desire to participate and gracious cooperation on the part of the White Plains Ration Board permitted the stayintown plan to be put into operation. Before the spring season closed on June 17th, thirteen of these programs had been presented throughout the county, eight by the State Police, with a total attendance of 3,447. Attendance figures mean little, however, when it is remembered the majority of these programs were purposely "booked" into the smaller communities temporarily deprived of most recreational pleasures.

Naval entertainers of Mobile Recreation Stayintown Show discuss program details

Programs Grow in Popularity

The programs early aroused the interest of Harold E. Hollister, one of the district Superintendents of Education, with the result that several presentations were held by his request at district schools in some of the hill country still existing in this county. Pupils brought their lunches to the central school where the program was held and the remainder of the day was given over to recreational events. In most instances the programs are held under the auspices of the local recreation commissions. In addition to providing the unit program and assisting with promotion, the County Commission supplies screen, sound projector and operator. Usually the Commission also assumes the financial responsibility for films and operator, except in instances where some of the expenses are paid from the local recreation budget. There are no ad-

mission charges and it may be stated in passing that it always seems to be the smaller communities who wish to share the expenses which generally run between seven and ten dollars for indoor presentations.

May Move Outdoors

During July and August it has been the policy of the County Recreation Commission for some years past to provide a special summer service for village, town and city recreation departments. The spring indoor programs proved so popular that it was decided to move them out of doors with open air motion pictures which Westchesterites found a pleasing novelty. For this series, in addition to Community Music Nights, a new and varied program was presented with even more emphasis laid upon local participation. Generally speaking, the program was divided into three equal parts—local recreation demonstrations, community singing, and motion pictures. The most popular of the several programs presented was a Forget-Your-Cares Night. This was called for in many communities. Purposely light and amusing with humorous selections for community singing and comedy motion pictures, it was an instant hit. One community, realizing the need for relaxation, adopted this motif for the three visits Mobile Recreation made during the season.

The outdoor programs were on a more ambitious scale than those staged indoors. Motion pictures and slides for community singing were projected on a large portable outdoor screen in playground, plaza, stadium, or schoolyard wherever the program was presented and electrical connections available. Large theatrical flood lights illuminated the "stage" for local acts and the community song leader. Microphones, hooked up to giant loud-speakers, carried voice and music to all parts of the various amphitheaters, and during sound movies the same public address system was utilized for amplification. Usually before show time there was a half hour concert of recordings. Ground crews included a sound engineer, a projectionist and one or two assistants (drafted from the High School "junior technicians"). Crowds, varying from several hundred to two or three thousand, according to the size of the communities, participated. During seven short weeks, forty of these programs were arranged in more than fifteen communities with the seasonal total of 25,971.

Such attendance figures aroused the approbation of Leslie V. Bateman, County Administrator for OPA, who, noting the nightly crowds and the marked absence of automobiles, credited the County Recreation Commission with having been the means of saving hundreds of gallons of much needed gasoline. Stayintown policies were more than a patriotic gesture and a real contribution to the war effort, he declared, for while seeking to discourage out-of-town travel they came into town with a recreational substitute.

Future Plans

Incidentally, when the Stayintown Programs go indoors, as they are scheduled to do in the late fall, OPA will be among those providing a special program unit. This will be a rubber clinic with local ration and play heads acting as co-chairmen, for recreation and automobile conservation have much in common. No matter what the war picture may be, the tire situation will remain critical. A special film will give graphic illustrations of tire abuse and a rubber expert will answer questions and advise on personal problems.

One of the best programs Mobile Recreation has yet devised from the standpoint of audience appeal and participation is the unit presented by radio station WFAS of White Plains, which will have its premiere during November. For this purpose auditorium stages will be turned into a broadcast studio with the station going "on the air" as it does when broadcasting. There will be a special film on broadcasts, auditions with audience participation, sound effect demonstrations, and finally a "broadcast" with players chosen from the audience who will read from scripts with usual accompaniment of sound effects and music.

Other organizations with programs in preparation, in addition to those who have already gone on the "circuit," include the Westchester County Park Commission, the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, the Westchester Fire Chiefs Emergency Plan, the Westchester Drama Association, the Westchester Lighting Company, and the New York Telephone Company.

Although Mobile Recreation serves a real purpose during the war days, it will perform even greater tasks in the postwar days to come. Then it can truly plan community services on a county-wide basis unhampered by transportation and other wartime restrictions—truly fulfilling the purpose for which it was created. Waiting for these days are a traveling caravan of wild animals from the New York Zoological Park, an elaborate road company from the Westchester Drama Associa-

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Cooperatively Planned and Financed

By G. H. BROOKS
Executive Director, Housing Authority
Texarkana, Texas

"PLAY ALL SUMMER for a dollar." That was our slogan, and the product proved to be cheap enough at the price—especially when the dollar took care of the whole family!

At the beginning of the summer members of the project services staff at the Robison Courts Project of the Texarkana Housing Authority were up the proverbial tree. There were 1,600 residents of the project; 1,600 people (many of them children) faced with a summer for which there had been no recreational planning. The staff just wasn't big enough to add this job to their other duties, and do any of them successfully — not if they expected to sleep! They needed somebody to give full time to planning a program and supervising the play areas. The order was a tall one, and the staff called on the tenant association for suggestions about its solution. With the help of the liaison USO worker for the Housing Project a plan was evolved, and an advance publicity campaign was set in motion.

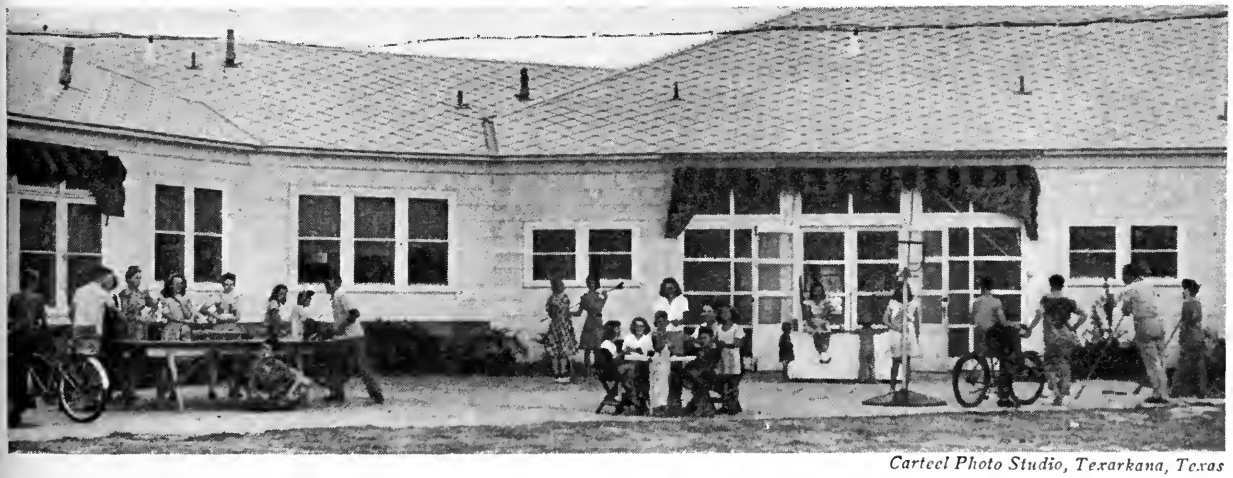
When everybody in the Courts had had an opportunity to learn about the need and the suggested solution, block leaders went the rounds of the community and talked to each family. Each family was asked to contribute $1.00 toward a fund which would pay the salary of a full-time playground supervisor for the three summer months. The best program possible would be provided and there would be no refunds. Most of the families contributed.

A leader, fortunately, was already on hand. One of the residents of the project took over for the Tenants Association Recreation Committee. It was her responsibility to conduct a recreation program from 9 A. M. until 9 P. M. six days a week. Thirty other residents of Robison Courts volunteered to help with the program where they could.

Mornings and evenings were given over to outdoor activities: shuffleboard, ping-pong, badminton, croquet, washers, horseshoes, volley ball and baseball. Afternoons were spent indoors. (It's hot in Texas in July and August.) Table games, quiet group games, crafts and storytelling periods helped to pass the hottest hours without danger of sunstroke. For an hour every evening the children cooled off in the spray pool. One evening each week was "Mom's and Pop's Night." The adults played both indoor table games and outdoor active games.

Teen-agers and adults had outdoor dances and the court gained the reputation of being the "coolest dance spot in town." Couples danced to their favorite orchestras, via juke box. Teen-agers from town were admitted to the junior dances, but adult dances were limited to the residents of the courts and their guests. The success of the program was best expressed by some of

(Continued on page 447)



It's Family Night at Robison's Courts—more familiarly known as "Mom's and Pop's" Night

Carteel Photo Studio, Texarkana, Texas

Highways to New Worlds

Books are brave new worlds to children. Here are stories of an organization and an individual who are finding ways to spread book magic to larger and larger numbers of boys and girls everywhere.

Books Bring Adventure

ON EITHER SIDE of a plate glass partition a handful of people are waiting. There is no sound, no movement. They seem not to breathe. Their eyes are all boring toward one man. He stands watching a pointer sweep around the face of a stop watch. His hand is raised, ready to throw the first cue. This is the moment of preparation; the moment when actors, technician, sound man, musicians prepare to call upon that overplus of power, that extra concentration and emotional awareness that marks the difference between a good "dress" and a show. The scene is Studio B of the World Broadcasting Corporation. A story for the transcription series, *Books Bring Adventure,* is about to be cut.

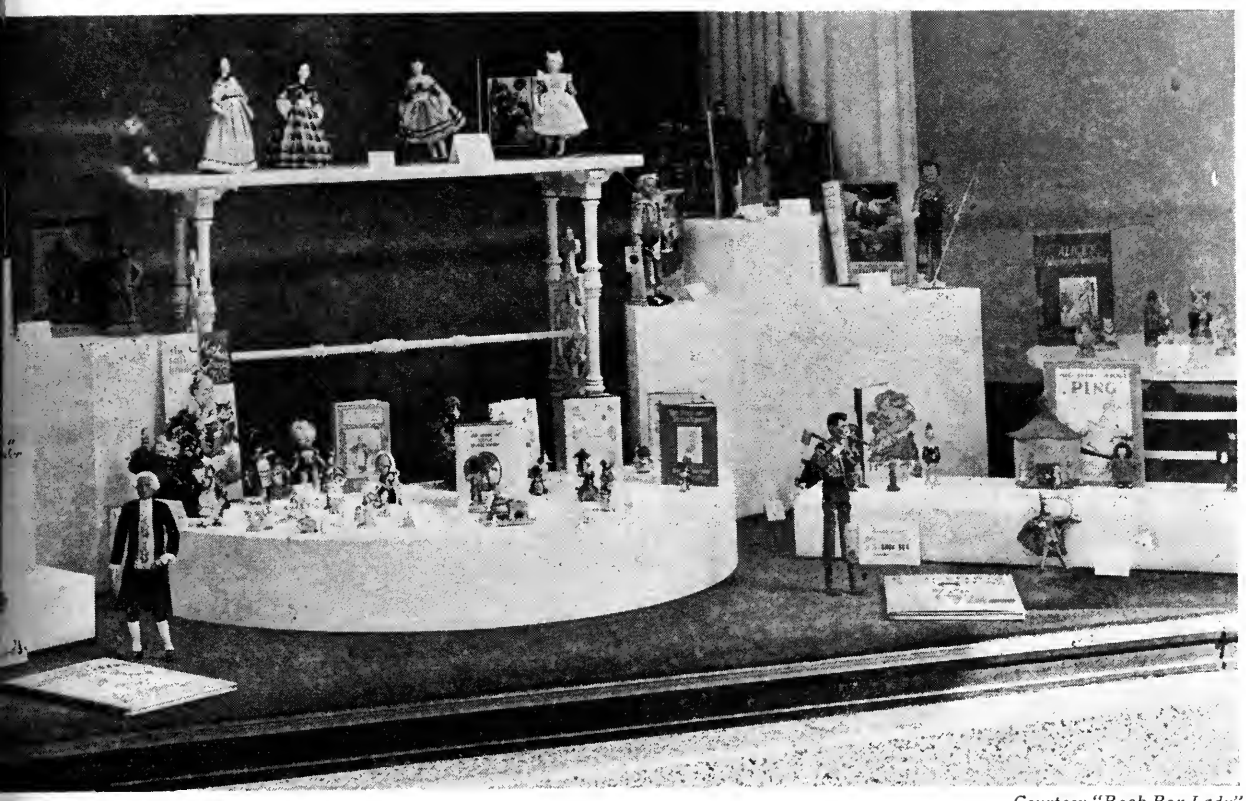
The series itself is an adventure—an adventure in bringing to children everywhere, and to their parents and teachers and adult friends, a new kind of experience with books. There is nothing experimental about the project. It is the result of years of trial and error in children's radio programs through local stations all over the country. The story of that experiment is the story of the present series.

Seven years ago the Junior League of Portland, Oregon, began the pioneering job. They felt that there was material other than *Superman* or *Jack Armstrong, the All American Boy,* which might appeal to children and would surely offer them a subtler type of adventuring. The League members turned their attention and their talents to book adaptations. They called their radio series *Reading Is Fun.* The books were carefully chosen for good story content, action, suspense, and real, live characters. The scripts were well written. The management of the local radio station was interested and willing to spend time (radio's most valuable commodity) and skill on giving the series a good production. The first series was successful enough to warrant continuing with the idea.

Other Junior Leagues in other cities began work on radio programs for children. They did not all follow the pattern of the Portland League. But over the years it became clear that the most successful programs were book adaptations. Today 90 per cent of the scripts in the catalogue of children's radio material compiled by the Association of Junior Leagues of America are book adaptations. By 1943, twenty-two Leagues were producing children's radio programs over local stations. The most satisfactory projects, perhaps, have been those of Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, and Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh League has won three national awards at the Institute for Education by Radio.

There was no "possible, probable shadow of doubt" that book adaptations were a sound approach to children's broadcasts. The Leagues had proved that such programs could be correlated with the work of the schools and the libraries; could become a medium for education in the broadest sense of that word; could bring pleasure and growth to hundreds of children whose reading habits were poor or nonexistent.

With the coming of the war, however, local production became increasingly difficult. Local stations were operating with drastically reduced staffs and with programs devoted more and more fully to the war effort. No commercial groups were making this type of transcription. It was evident, too, that the local Leagues could reach only a small proportion of children over the country. It seemed indicated—clearly and obviously—that the time had come for the Association of Junior Leagues of America to expand the pioneering job to a point



Courtesy "Book Box Lady"

Dolls dressed as storybook people help make a book exhibit come alive for the children who look at it

where transcriptions of book adaptations could be made easily and inexpensively available for use on *any* radio station or for *any* school or library or other organization with the equipment to play sixteen-inch discs recorded at 33⅓ RPM. Eventually the League hopes to put the transcriptions on twelve-inch records playable on any home or school record-player.

The plan, conceived in the fertile brain of Gloria Chandler, Consultant on Radio for the Association staff, was set in motion early this summer. By October 1st the transcriptions were ready for release. Between those two dates a "whet" of work had gone on.

A committee of teachers, librarians, publishers, and booksellers, working with Miss Chandler, canvassed the whole field of children's books in order to be sure that the thirteen stories chosen for the series would be the best material available. Each book had to meet the primary test of being significant for reading as well as suitable for radio adaptation. Beyond that, the committee sought books that would widen horizons, stimulate imaginations, and satisfy the need for high adventure that lives in every normal youngster. The final list is international in scope. It includes realism and humor, fantasy and legend. The list is as follows:

Title	*Author*	*Publisher*	*Country*
Captain Kidd's Cow	Phil Stong	Dodd Mead	U.S.A.
Gift of the Forest	Eloise Lownsbery and H. Lal Singh	Longmans Green	India
In Clean Hay	Eric P. Kelly	Macmillan	Poland
Level Land	Dola de Jong	Scribner's	Holland
Mischief in Fez	Eleanor Hoffman	Holiday House	Morocco
Mocha the Djuka	Frances F. Neilson	Dutton	Negro and So. America
On the Dark of the Moon	Don Lang	Oxford	American Negro
Singing Tree	Kate Seredy	Viking	Hungary
Smoky Bay	Steingumur Arason	Macmillan	Iceland
Struggle Is Our Brother	Gregor Felsen	Dutton	Russia
Three and a Pigeon	Kitty Barne	Dodd Mead	England
Trap Lines North	Stephen Meader	Dodd Mead	Canada
When the Typhoon Blows	Elizabeth F. Lewis	Winston	China

With each set of transcriptions will go a reading list indicating for each book in the series ten others of similar interest. This additional list will strengthen the Committee's effort to broaden backgrounds and show young readers new worlds for their conquering.

The producer for the series and the actors for each story were chosen with one end in mind—to get the best possible talent available. Their work, excellent to begin with, has been hedged about with every mechanical care. The smallest slip of the tongue, the slightest irregularity in sound or music transcription, was re-recorded and erased from the final product. The result is a series of transcriptions (and eventually, perhaps, of records) as nearly perfect, mechanically and artistically, as loving care can make them. Thousands of children all over the country will be the beneficiaries.

There has been a spirit of excited cooperation from everyone who has had any part in making the transcriptions. Something more than the artistic integrity that goes into doing a good job has been apparent from the very start among actors and technical men. It is obvious that the job has gotten under their skins so that its final success is very close to their hearts. An interesting note is that some of the child actors who have taken part in making the transcriptions have been "pestering" the producer for copies of the books from which the episodes were taken!

The job is done now. The transcriptions are being sent out to radio stations, to schools, and libraries all over the country. An audition record is available for anyone who wants to hear it. Available, too, are suggestions for listener-promotion and for cooperative tie-ups with other community groups interested in promoting good reading among children.

Anyone who would like to know more about the details of getting and producing the series should write to Miss Gloria Chandler, Association of Junior Leagues of America, the Waldorf-Astoria, New York 22, New York.

The Book Box Lady

IT WAS MIDMORNING in Crown Point, Indiana. School was in its usual midmorning rut. Pupils sat listlessly at their desks, wrote each other notes, made spitballs against that auspicious moment when teacher's back would be turned, went to the board to demonstrate the day's arithmetic problem. Teachers coped as best they could with discipline and racked their brains for new ways to teach old facts. The principal called two of the older boys to his office and sent them to the gymnasium to help unpack boxes. Johnnie, in the third grade, waved his hand violently and asked to be excused. Permission granted, Johnnie tiptoed into the hall. He cocked his head on one side to listen to queer noises coming from the gym. He thought he'd better investigate. A minute later his voice rang through the corridors in a great shouting. "Hey! The books are here!"

And so they were. Ruth Tooze, the "Book Box Lady," with hundreds of children's books, had come to Crown Point. A youngster from the eighth grade was so excited over the books that he rushed off to ask the principal whether the pupils might have some time off in the afternoon to read. Johnnie's yell had brought many children into the halls—all begging to read. The principal declared a two-day vacation, two days when everybody in the school—administrative staff, teachers, pupils—forgot their classes and read books.

Ruth Tooze once taught music and ran the library in a small progressive school in Palo Alto. In 1935 she moved to Evanston and started a book shop, the Book Box. It might have been just another book shop slanted toward children's interests. It wasn't that because Mrs. Tooze had an idea. She had a child of her own, and she knew how hard it was for any parent outside the largest cities to find roads which children could travel to the storehouses of the world's culture. She believed that books could open many doors for youngsters, solve many problems for perplexed parents, if only the youngsters and the oldsters and the right books could somehow be brought together.

Children's books cannot be handled like commercial items. The seller of them is trafficking in ideas and ideals, in the materials that will build the world of tomorrow. Many parents realize this. They want help in finding for their children good resources of culture, of music and literature, and art. Such aid to parents should come from teachers. But teachers are helpless unless school boards and superintendents will provide the rich resources that are available. Too often the "powers that be" consider these resources mere frills and fail to allocate the funds necessary for procuring them. Mrs. Tooze started her book shop in order to make for the parents of Chicago's North Shore a place where they could find counsel in selecting for their children's reading the best possible bill of fare.

Teachers Become Interested

By the time the Book Box had finished one year of life it was a "hangout" for teachers who were studying the mechanics of their trade at North-

western University. They began to use the shop as a curriculum laboratory, and they were amazed at what they found. These men and women whose job it was to supervise their pupils' reading often had little knowledge of children's books. They found in Mrs. Tooze a person who thought of books in terms of human beings and their communities, whether large or small. They came back again and again for aid in planning reading programs. And they only increased her realization that most parents and school boards knew nothing or next to nothing about books for children; that libraries in the average town or small city were pitifully inadequate; that there were too few books in the average small town or rural school.

Mrs. Tooze was a novice at the book trade. She knew "too little to be afraid of the pontificate." She went to New York to talk to the editors of children's books. She told them that she wanted five or six hundred good books, books definitely related to the subjects taught in grades three to eight. She wanted to take these books back to summer schools where teachers could see them. She offered no guarantee of immediate sales, but she argues that this was the best possible kind of long range selling. Eighteen editors agreed to cooperate with her — agreed tentatively and with certain reservations, lured on, we suspect, by her dynamic belief in her own proposition. She was (and is) a person with a cause.

Home again, Ruth Tooze, wrote to educational departments of universities and professional schools where teachers would be coming for certificate renewal or degree credits during the summer. She found that teacher training institutions on the whole had children's libraries which were distinguished by their inadequacy. In 1940 twelve summer schools welcomed her suggestion that she set up book exhibits to be used by the teachers who were studying there. By this time she had about 600 books. She showed them to teachers of all grades, talked about them, fired the teachers with much of her own enthusiasm for giving to children the books that would meet the boys and girls where they were, in terms of their interests, instead of giving them books every child should know — vintage of 1900. The enthusiasm of the teachers for what she had to offer was almost pitiful. Here at last was someone who could speak their language, who thought of books in terms of life.

In 1942 she was ready for a new experiment. Why not bring the books directly to the children in the schools? Through the good offices of a convert to her theory she was invited to come into the schools of Rockford, Illinois, and give a demonstration. Commercial facilities for the purchase of children's books were meagre in Rockford. The public libraries were good as far as they went, but that wasn't far enough. The set-up was a perfect test tube for the Book Box Lady.

Mrs. Tooze met all the second and third grade children in the city in the auditorium of one of the schools. For an hour she told stories. Then the children were turned loose with the book exhibit — turned loose to handle the books, to read them, to become familiar with their texture and their illustrations and their words. Later on in the morning the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades went through the same experience. One youngster, when he got home, went starry-eyed to his father. "Dad," he said, "the storytelling lady came to our school today. It was the best day we'd ever had at school. She was *so* funny. You know we don't laugh much in school this year. She made everybody laugh, Dad, even the *teachers*. Think of it, Dad, even the teachers laughed."

The Answer—Book Fairs

The afternoon was turned over to the parents. They came to see what books were available for children to read. They had one question, "How can we get these books for *our* children?" Mrs. Tooze had the answer: book fairs.

The first book fair was held in the gymnasium of two of the Rockford schools. The books were set out in booths for age interest and for subject interest. Each booth was chairmaned by a parent who had a youngster in the grades concerned. Twelve to fifteen hundred books were sold in Rockford, sold for children on every economic level. The P.T.A. sponsored the fairs and kept 20 per cent of the profits (which they promptly put into more books for the school libraries). This was in October 1942. In June 1943 the superintendent of schools reported that in the two schools where a book fair had been held the general achievement tests and the reading tests showed the greatest advances in the history of the school. Furthermore, he testified that parents, teachers, pupils had a common meeting ground, that the influence of the books had reached into every facet of community life. Every principal in the city wanted to have a book fair at his school. All the principals joined in a request that Mrs. Tooze come to Rockford last fall for three weeks. Al-

(Continued on page 447)

For Servicemen and Women

This material has been taken from a publication issued by the Newark Museum under the title, "The Paint and Clay Corner." It will serve as a practical guide to any group wishing to set up a similar workshop.

The project described here is only one of many interesting activities being conducted by the Newark Museum. Readers of RECREATION will recall an article in the August issue of the magazine which described the summer program carried on by the Museum.

THE NEWARK, New Jersey, Art Museum, working with the Special Services Branch at Camp Kilmer, is providing a stimulating leisure time activity for the servicemen and women stationed at the camp. The soldiers have named the project the "Paint and Clay Corner." It is located in the library of one of the Service Clubs and the atmosphere is informal and homelike. The library hours, from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M., make it possible for men and women on night as well as day duty to use the Paint and Clay Corner in their leisure time. A library staff member is always present to show the location of the materials and explain their use. Twice a week a member of the museum staff comes to Camp Kilmer to give beginners instruction in painting and modelling. Twice a month different techniques and points of view are given by painters and sculptors who are invited by the Museum on scheduled dates. In addition to this, a series of Sunday afternoon outdoor sketching trips has been added to the program.

Many hundreds of men and women have used the Paint and Clay corner. A surprising number of them had never before thought of paint and clay as materials they would enjoy working with. But let the leader lump up an oval mass of clay, and the most diffident cannot resist the urge to shape it into eyes, nose, and mouth—especially if he has a particular top sergeant in mind!

No formal "classes" are held when the museum staff member comes around. She sets out the materials in an inviting array, and the men work for a few minutes or a few hours as they wish. They choose their own subject and pick out from oil paints, oil chalks, black and white media, self-hardening clay, and plaster blocks for carving, the materials they prefer for their work.

During the period between visits from the instructor, suggestions for work are kept in a portfolio on one of the shelves. These include instruction for carving, modeling and drawing exercises, and photograph reproductions from magazines. The photographs are arranged in separate folders for anatomical information for figure, portrait, and animal sculpture and drawing, and there are photographs of landscapes and interiors to be used as suggestions for painting compositions.

The Equipment

The library is equipped with bakelite-surfaced tables which are very satisfactory because they are easily cleaned and a good height and size. They are thirty inches high, three feet wide, and five feet long.

Drawing boards eighteen by twenty-four inches cut from quarter-inch wallboard shellacked on both sides are propped against the table edges or used on the folding easels.

Folding floor easels were lent by a local art association. Where floor easels are not obtainable, folding table easels are suggested. These may be used on tables or on portable stools. A large standing easel, constructed by the Special Services Branch, is used for demonstrations.

Palettes for oil paints made from medium-soft wallboard twelve by fifteen inches, with both sides of each palette covered with two coats of shellac, are used. Several sheets of waxed paper are stapled on one side. The paint is placed on the top sheet of waxed paper, which is torn off after use. If the palette is to be used the next day, the waxed paper is folded up over the paint, which will keep moist in this way for a day or two. If there is a great deal of unused paint left on a palette, each color is put into a section of muffin tin and covered with waxed paper. It is used on a fresh palette later.

Small glass jelly jars, two for five cents at ten-cent stores, are used for turpentine cups. The regular tin cups which clip on the palette are used for outdoor work. A two-quart glass jar provided by the Service Club cafeteria holds used turpentine. When the sediment has settled at the bottom of the jar, the clear turpentine is poured off and used again. Another two-quart jar is used for clay "slip"—clay thinned to a creamy consistency and

used to hold together parts of a piece of modeling.

As a sink is not available, the Special Services office provides two galvanized pails. One is used for rinsing clay from hands and equipment, the other for emptying water used for water colors and ink washes.

Five paint boxes, equipped with palette, paints, turpentine cup, palette knife, three brushes, turpentine bottle and paint cloth are available for outdoor use. A label containing a list of contents and clean-up directions is attached to the outside of each box. The labels are weather-proofed with a coat of shellac. Library cards are attached on the inside of each box and the boxes are checked in and out by the librarian.

Paint rags are supplied by the Post Salvage Department, which also supplies old raincoats to be cut into pieces large enough to cover ceramic pieces which have to be kept damp.

Clay modeling tools whittled and sandpapered from scrap wood, orangewood sticks, and lengths of wire of different guage are used.

Armatures on which to model ceramic heads and figurines are made from shade rollers cut in three by eight inch lengths and nailed to scrap wood one inch thick and of various base dimensions. Heavy coats of shellac are given to these armatures to prevent the clay from sticking to the wood and to prevent the wood from warping. Plaster "bats," on which ceramic pieces are built, are cast in pie tins and rectangular cardboard boxes. A large, covered, galvanized can is used to hold the supply of ceramic clay. An inch or two of water is kept in the bottom and the clay stands in this. The clay is covered with a wet cloth, one end dipped in water to keep it damp by capillary action.

The enthusiastic comments of appreciation from the men and women who use the Paint and Clay Corner are clear indications of its value as a recreation activity. One such comment came from a soldier who had just finished his first piece of sculpture. He stood back to look at his work with some satisfaction and said, "When I go to a show, I watch other people doing things. Tonight I did something myself and I got more real fun out of it, and this has been the best evening I have had in camp."

"The purpose of leisure-time art is not professional competency; it is not an effort to rival the gifted and special few who must, as artists, give perfection of form to what we buy, or must break new ground for man's vision of the beauty of the world. It is purely individual satisfaction. It is the personal effort to enter into our heritage of the color and form of the world, to expend our own efforts from toil into pleasure, to assert our own right to do something to our own environment, either alone or in communal efforts with others."—*Sydney Greenbie* in *Leisure for Living.*

Courtesy Magazine of Art

"The Paint and Clay Corner" provided for servicemen is an example of one form of service which museums are offering. Still another is glimpsed in this picture showing blind high school students "seeing" Hernandez' Black Panther by feeling its hard, smooth surfaces.

GI Joe Makes a Discovery

By HAROLD F. MOOR
Chief, Special Service Division
Major, Air Corps

Major Moor was at one time Assistant State Director of the Wisconsin WPA Recreation Project, and when called to active duty was serving as recreation executive at Sycamore, Illinois

IT WAS JUST beginning in the days when an overseas commander radioed the War Department to send him "eleven pianos along with the bullets and beans," but today it has developed to the point where fifty-five girls were flown a distance of two hundred miles to an isolated station so that the men there might hold a dance.

Recreation, as distinguished from entertainment of the commercial amusement variety, is being discovered daily by hundreds of men in our armed forces. Many are isolated in relatively small numbers from the civilization they've known by the snow and ice of the Arctic Circle, or the great expanses of water of the Pacific, or the miles of sand and dust in the desert of Africa. They are stationed at points on the globe selected because of their importance to the Army in predicting weather or maintaining communications, or their suitability as emergency landing fields along routes flown by the planes pouring out of United States aircraft plants and winging their way to all fighting fronts. Yet these men have discovered that leisure can be enjoyable and satisfying even though there are few movies to see, few, if any, radio programs to hear, no Coney Islands to visit, and no night clubs or sports spectacles to attend.

As might be expected, it was the ingenuity of American youth, plus a sharing of recreational experiences dating back to the playground or recreation center of a more peaceful era, plus the assistance of officers and men with civilian experience in public recreational leadership which enabled our GIs to drive the enemy of boredom back out into the snow or water or sand from which it had risen to envelop them.

Young men from Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas, finding themselves stationed in the Arctic, are learning to ski and to argue about waxing techniques. The challenge of mastering the Christie and Telemark is giving them not only something to do but something to think and talk and write home about.

Not "Kids' Stuff" After All!

Other discoveries in recreation help them endure the long winter nights when Arctic darkness multiplies the desolating powers of the forces of boredom. Kits of handcraft tools and supplies, at first considered by military procurement officials as "kids' stuff," have awakened men to the satisfaction resulting from creative ability, and many are the handmade billfolds and block-printed greeting cards, for example, which the men send with pride to friends and kin back home. It is even rumored that parachute silk has mysteriously been found transformed into block-printed drapes to brighten an otherwise drab and dreary hut.

Procurement officials who had a hundred objections to placing the Army's first order for fifty handcraft kits requisitioned by the Special Service Division of the Air Transport Command now buy them ten thousand at a time without even raising an eyebrow. Even Post Exchanges, by popular GI demand, are now stocking handcraft supplies. A kit of raw materials and instructions for model plane building (as distinguished from the ready-designed and stamped-out kits) was recently reported by an officer at a northern station as "the best type of recreational supply to have reached the field."

Because "bullets and beans" have a higher shipping priority than recreational supplies, the men in the Pacific take advantage of native materials as a means of self-expression.

"Perverse as it may sound, wars have beneficial results, and the objectives of public recreation, too, will be nearer realization as a result of the present conflict. Many young men, through force of circumstances, have experienced the genuine and immediate satisfactions resulting from participation either individually or collectively in activities which challenge them to successful accomplishment or self-expression. They will no longer be satisfied solely with commercial amusements; they will insist that the communities to which they return provide opportunities for the continued pursuit of interests they have acquired; they will insist that leadership be provided to enable others to share their enjoyment; and they will constitute a body of allies in the cause of public recreation such as those of us who have dedicated our lives to it have never seen."

Artistically patterned necklaces, matched so as to bring out the natural color and beauty of sea shells as one finds them only in the tropics, are a popular handcraft, as is also the sculpturing of cocoanuts before the hulls have been removed. The making of artificial lures enhances the fun in fishing, for which opportunities abound in the quiet lagoons of coral atolls after the storm of war has passed them by. Our current grim associations with Pacific atolls has tended to make us forget that not so long ago, in the days of our pre-Pearl Harbor innocence, we romanticized them as island paradises.

Courtesy Ladd Field, Photo Section

The GI Joes wanted a recreation building. Their sympathetic commanding officer regretfully said there was no lumber or labor available for the purpose. Undaunted, by the use of native materials and hard work in their leisure time, they have completed the project shown here in its early stages.

"Plastic" Music

Judged by the incessant call from overseas for musical instruments, orchestrations, composition paper, and other supplies, most of the members of our prewar one hundred thousand bands are in the Army now, alive—and kicking! Attendance figures from the Southwest Pacific show musical activities about equal in popularity to athletics. In view of the critical shortages of legitimate instruments, plastic ocarinas, tonettes and song flutes were substituted in many cases and, as was expected, the enthusiasm accorded them varied in degree. Where they were used to awaken an interest in manipulating an instrument, the response has been favorable. Where they have been turned over to the men who could play legitimate instruments, the response was poor for the simple reason that the challenge of successful performance was mediocre.

Where Horses Are $20 Apiece

At the desert stations of Africa, where horses can be purchased for as little as twenty dollars, and where maintenance costs are nominal, riding, racing, and polo are bringing something new to the leisure lives of many young men whose only previous equestrian training was on a merry-go-round. Procurement officials recently disapproved a requisition for saddles and bridles because they were disinclined to appropriate enlisted men's funds for equipment that seemed adaptable only for officers' use. They reversed their decision, however, when it was explained to them that reports from this area frequently indicated riding, racing, or polo games as "the greatest morale improving factor of the month."

GI Joe Expresses Himself!

The hundreds of weekly mimeographed station newspapers which have begun publication within recent months at overseas installations are indicative again of man's natural desire to be self-expressive, and it is encouraging to see that all who edit them

or contribute to them are not former newspaper men. A recent contest conducted among Air Transport Command station newspapers and designed to encourage discussion of what the war is about and what might be hoped for in the way of international relations leading to a permanent peace, produced emphatic evidence that our men in the Service are not (as frequently reported) prepossessed with the desire to get back home to to the exclusion of all constructive thinking as to why and to what end they are fighting.

Further evidence of this fact is found in the numerous groups of men who voluntarily devote considerable leisure to preparation for a weekly debate or panel discussion or quiz contest on subjects relating to America's participation in the war and the problems of reconstruction which will need attention when the last shot has been fired. Many of the most eager participants, it has been found, never had a chance to express themselves in public before. Leadership for postwar reconstruction and for permanent peace is in the making. This study and thought and exchange of ideas will not have been in vain!

Evidence of prewar America's five thousand little theater groups and of its starry-eyed hordes of stage-struck youngsters is found in the thousands of original dramatic productions our GIs have staged. Each new production invariably includes in its cast men who heretofore have been mere spectators. A shortage of first-class entertainers has also contributed to the desire of the GI to produce his own.

Obstacles Must Be Overcome

Of course, all is not so rosy as the foregoing may lead one to believe. Recreation in the Army has had its difficulties among which the following will arouse a sympathetic interest among readers of RECREATION: The playground director who believes that the best way to keep his proteges from juvenile delinquency is to give them so much strenuous physical activity during the day that after supper they will be ready to go to bed has his Army counterpart in the officer who insists that venereal disease rates can best be kept at a minimum by working the men so hard and so long that they are ready only for bunk fatigue after chow. The parent who insists his children might better be working than spending leisure hours on the playground or at the recreation center appears in the Army as the officer who refuses to authorize athletic fields because inspectors, seeing them used, would say that there is a surplus of manpower at the station.

The city fathers who pound the table and vociferously proclaim that children don't have to be taught how to play are sometimes found in the Army in the guise of officers who insist that personnel need not be assigned to conduct recreation activities — that all that is needed is an ample quantity of supplies and facilities and sufficient custodial and maintenance personnel to look after them. Popular, too, is the belief that recreational leadership is just another administrative duty, and that a month's schooling can make a Special Service Officer out of anyone qualified to be an officer.

At present, emphasis in leisure programs anticipates termination of hostilities in Europe, at which time, in all probability, many ground and service force personnel will be demobilized, while others must remain in uniform for some time in the far places of the world. Seeing their home town buddies returning to civilian life and good jobs while for them "the duration and six months" stretches out indefinitely, naturally will result in restlessness unless our men feel that they are not just marking time.

In anticipation of this problem, men are being encouraged to take advantage of opportunities for self-improvement available in leisure education classes on or immediately off the station, as well as correspondence study and self teaching materials available through the U. S. Armed Forces Institute and its far-flung branches. Research studies are in progress which will enable Special Service Officers to provide educational counseling which is valid in terms of postwar vocational opportunities.

Along with manpower conservation, more and more volunteer leaders are being drawn into the program, and every effort is being made to stimulate interest in leisure activities in which active participation is the essence of enjoyment.

"National defense calls for a lot more than military service or even defense production. There are hundreds of services that need to be done in every city in the United States. Someone needs to organize recreation, for instance, for soldiers and for workers and their families. . . . Health, happiness, and strength are the backbone of defense. When military defense is over, home defense will be as much needed as ever. There will be no end to the job of defending America against disease and unhappiness."—*David Cushman Coyle.*

Army Hospital Recreation

By A. D. FABER

ARMY HOSPITALS the world over, including sixty large general hospitals in the United States alone, plus Air Force rest hospitals and sectional hospitals, are putting on an entertainment and recreation program through their Special Service officers and Red Cross personnel. They offer all types of recreational activities from bedside games to patient-produced shows. Among other things they send out a Soldier Show conference team that sets up patient show programs.

This is the first large scale attempt to put into effect the full advantages of recreational therapy as an aid to the rehabilitation of soldier patients. The basic theory of this hospital recreation program is to occupy the patients healthfully in self-entertainment and recreation so that they will have less time to worry about their own troubles. Although the program has just started, reports indicate amazing patient response and activity and, where the full program is in effect, astounding results. This hospital program is being welcomed by the soldiers who find it makes their hospitalization less boring.

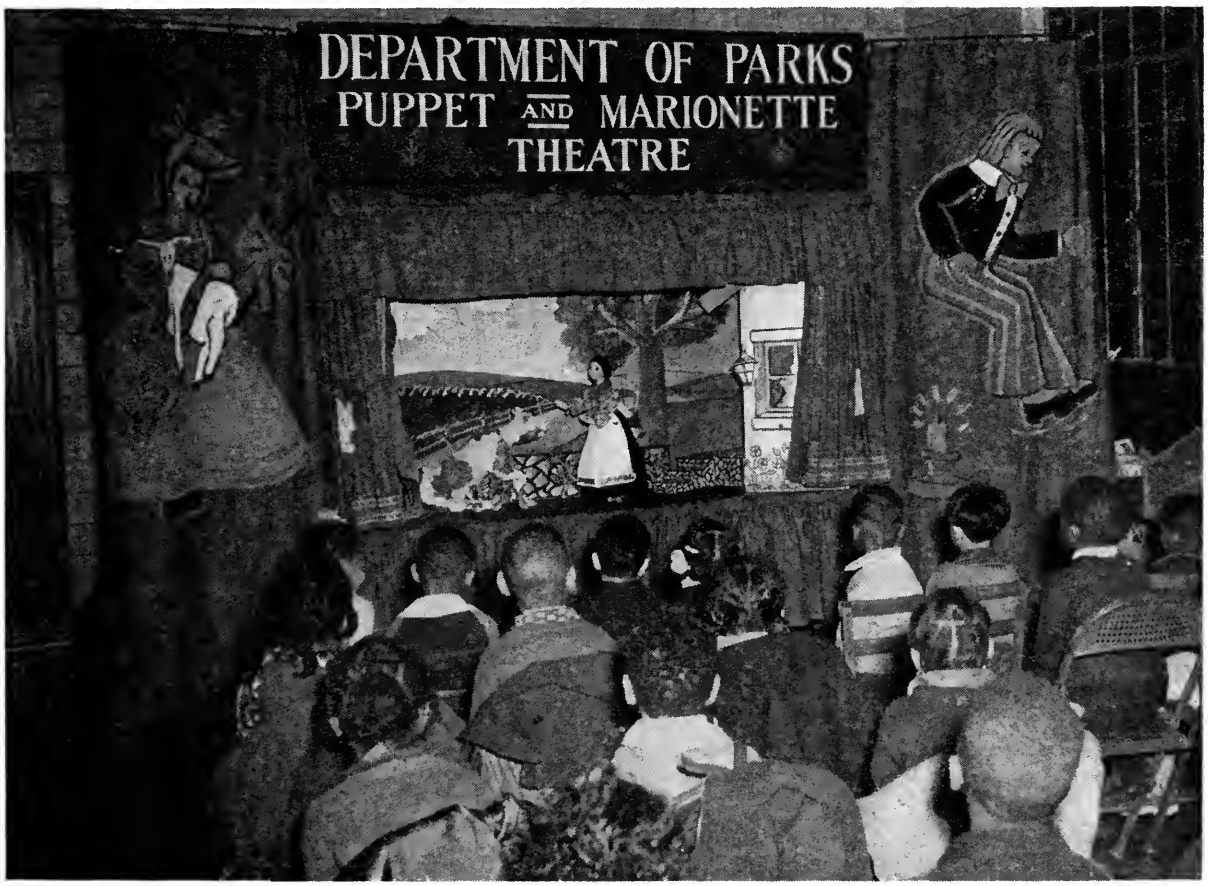
Puppet Shows

Up to the present time puppetry programs in hospitals have relied on the expert guidance of an experienced puppeteer. This is no longer true, for the entertainment and recreation section of Special Services Division of the Army has worked out a simple, successful hospital puppet program.

This program does not need an expert to put it over or experts to put on the shows. It takes advantage of the already established activities and

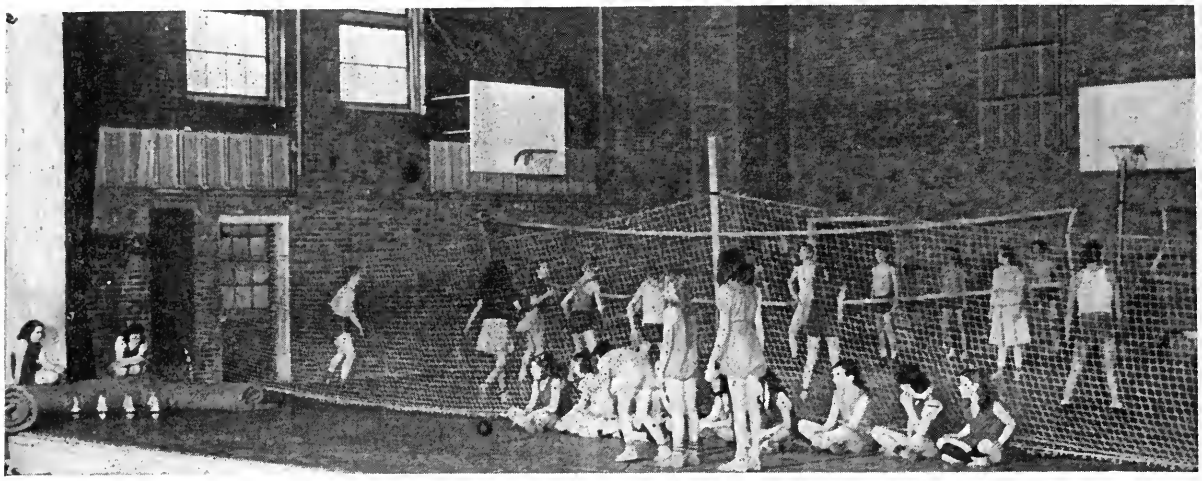
(Continued on page 440)

Everyone enjoys a puppet show—children on playgrounds and servicemen in hospitals, who, these days, are putting on their own shows



Courtesy New York City Park Department

Bowling in Recreation and Physical Education



By PATRICK A. TORK
West Virginia University

THE JUNIOR high school in my home town, where some years ago I served as coach and physical director, had an excellent gymnasium but lacked equipment and apparatus. How to develop activities which would have a recreational as well as a physical value for the students was the problem I faced.

One night, after visiting the bowling alley in our community, the idea came to me of using bowling in the school program. But just how was bowling to be used? Where could we get the equipment? And how was it to be paid for since no school funds were available?

It was at this point that my experience as a pin boy in my youth came to the rescue! I remembered that during lulls in the day's business we pin boys played a game called "Eight Out." Lots were drawn, and the unlucky boy would go down and set up the pins and continue setting them up until someone failed to knock down eight pins with two balls. When this happened, the boy who had been playing would go down to the pit and remain there, setting up the pins until another boy failed to reach the necessary quota. Sometimes one boy would set up pins a long time because some of us grew very expert with our rolling! Much of our knowledge and skill was acquired through practice and observation of the regular bowlers in action who were generous with pointers on the game if they happened in when we were playing Eight Out.

This method with slight alterations could, I decided, be used to advantage in the school program.

The problem of equipment was overcome through the cooperation of two local bowling alley managers and their interest in boys and girls. We asked these managers to give us for school use the pin and ball sets which they discarded each year. This they gladly did, and we were given several sets of duck pins and balls.

After experimenting with the equipment in the gymnasium, I came to the conclusion that provision for bowling could be most effectively made by taking three of our 6′ by 12′ mats, rolling them lengthwise and placing them at one end of the gymnasium in the shape of a U. The open ends of the U were slightly spread to act as a bowling pit. In this position the mats would catch the stray balls and act as a break for them after they came through or missed the pins. This worked out very satisfactorily.

My physical education classes at the Barnes School consisted of fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grade boys, and fifth and sixth grade girls. In each of the classes bowling was offered as part of the activity program. Its reception by the students was very enthusiastic.

The activity was organized along the line of Eight Out previously described. In order to take care of several bowlers at one time and not occupy too much space in the gymnasium, groups of eight to twelve students were organized to bowl at the same time on each of the alleys. Most of the time one and two alleys were utilized, and the balance

of the gymnasium was given over to other activities. This arrangement permitted a rotation and variety of program during the same period. By using the Eight Out game several students, with the possible exception of the pin setters, could bowl on the same alley with practically an equal number of rolls for each.

From each bowling group two students were selected to set up the pins. The others were arranged in bowling order, and the game started. According to our rules, the first student who failed to knock down eight pins with two balls was obliged to replace one of the pin setters who would then take his or her place in the bowling order. In this way each received a regular turn at bowling as long as he continued to knock down eight pins with two balls. The next bowler who failed to bring down eight pins changed places with the second pin setter. This continued until the bell automatically terminated the game at the end of the period.

In order to prevent damage to the floor and equipment and eliminate injuries, a few simple rules were observed:

After the first ball was rolled, one of the pin setters would pick up the ball and retain it; if there were any dead pins on the alley the other setter would remove them to the rear of the standing pins. After the second ball had been rolled and retrieved, both were returned, one at a time, with a slight push. Sufficient time was allowed between each return of balls to permit safe recovery by the bowler awaiting his turn at the other end of the alley. The balls were stopped by first stepping on them with a sliding forward movement of the foot. This made recovery rather easy. Lofting the balls in rolling was prohibited to prevent denting the floor, and additional precautions were taken to eliminate all possible damage.

Noon Hour Bowling

In addition to its use in the physical education classes, bowling had an important place in the noon hour program. Many students brought their lunches, and a regular program of free play was provided in which bowling was included. The bowling area was set off by a net 7 feet high and 60 feet long, making possible the use of the balance of the floor for several other activities. Many times members of the faculty who brought their lunches would bowl with the students.

In order to meet the age differences and varied abilities of the classes, the alleys were lengthened or shortened to meet the needs of each group. The lanes were always marked off in white chalk which could be easily erased at the end of the playing period. To lay off the pin spots, a form was made with four yardsticks arranged in triangular shape with a crosspiece through the center and holes bored through the sticks at proper intervals to represent the pin spots. By placing the form on the floor in the correct position, then marking through the holes in the form with white chalk, ten chalk impressions were made to represent the regulation pin spots.

Bowling as a Source of Revenue

It is sometimes necessary for schools to raise funds for activities essential in the education program. Money is occasionally needed for the purchase of new equipment and apparatus for the gymnasium and for other materials which boards of education may not be able to provide. To meet these needs a special bowling program may be organized for afterschool classes, and a small fee may be charged.

Many schools put on annual carnivals or fairs to raise funds. At one such event in our school bowling was made one of the side attractions. A small fee was charged for each roll, with prizes offered for various achievements such as knocking down all the pins with one ball. For this another roll was given, and small candy prizes were also offered. Mothers and fathers, as well as other friends of the school, participate most enthusiastically in such an event, and students need no encouragement to take part.

When they had seen a bowling demonstration, had observed the arrangement of equipment and the plan for group bowling, and had played some games, the students readily saw the possibilities for school and community use of bowling. Many of the graduate students taking the summer courses made immediate plans to introduce bowling into their programs.

"Bowling is one of the oldest of our present-day sports, its history dating back to the 13th century. Throughout these many years several variations have been made. It has been developed in England especially. . . . In the 17th century the Dutch brought the game to America. The outdoor game of 'lawn bowls' is still played in many parts of the country, but the indoor game is more popular and is about a hundred years old."—From *Bowling for Beginners* by *Dorothy Sumption.*

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

"*AGRICULTURAL Science* to Serve Youth," by Warren Peter Everote. Columbia University Press, New York. 79 pp. $1.85. Contributions to Education, No. 901. This book is the result of a course in experimental science for secondary-school students.

"*Dogs* for Democracy," by Thomas Young. Bernard Ackerman, Inc., New York. 32 pp. $1. The story of America's Canine Heroes in the global war.

Fabre, Henri. "Wild Fields," by Irmengarde Eberle. Oxford University Press, Toronto, Canada. $3. The story of Henri Fabre, the great French entomologist.

Farming. "Roots in the Earth," by P. A. Waring and W. M. Teller. Harper and Brothers, New York. 198 pp. $2.50. A plea for the "little farmer" by two Pennsylvania farmers.

Fishing. "The Incomplete Angler," by John D. Robins. William Collins Sons and Company, Toronto, Canada. $3.

Geography. "The Geography of the Peace," by Nicholas John Spykman. Edited by Helen R. Nicholl. Harcourt, Brace, and Company, Inc. New York. 66 pp., maps. $2.75.

Museum Volunteers of the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. More than 500 children between the ages of six and seventeen have made application to participate in the youth volunteer program of the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. These young people receive instruction in rules and purposes of the museum and assist with volunteer tasks. It is planned eventually to include hobby groups and museum craft project as a part of the program.

Nature Play. Ben Cummings, nature activity man for the Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati, has gotten out a series of ingenious mimeographed directions to playground leaders that have been united into a booklet entitled *Nature Play.* Space here permits only listing a few of the lively projects: First Settlers Camp at the Airport where 300 children had gardens, horses to ride, and were hauled back to the bus line in an oxcart by real oxen; Mound Builders Camp at the Walnut Hills Playground, based on mound building and Indian lore; a traveling camp which was really a farmyard zoo with goats, hens, pigeons. The farmyard was set up at a new playground each day. It even kept children from swimming — it was so thrilling. There was a Nature Guide Club to train junior leaders, and Ranger and Rangerette Clubs on the playgrounds. The whole booklet is full of charm, excitement, and "come hither." We repeat what we said a year ago. "Watch Cincinnati's nature program!"

"All too many of us limit our enjoyment of life by ignoring some of the most interesting and enthralling everyday happenings. Right in our midst nature is daily putting on a show that far surpasses anything that has ever yet been produced." — *Gerald Salters* in *Of Mutual Interest.*

New York State Teacher Colleges recently held an outdoor leadership institute at National Camp. Delegates from the eleven college centers lived and cooked in the open, went bog trolling and studied stump diaries. New Jersey teacher colleges held their institute, each college sending six to eight student delegates.

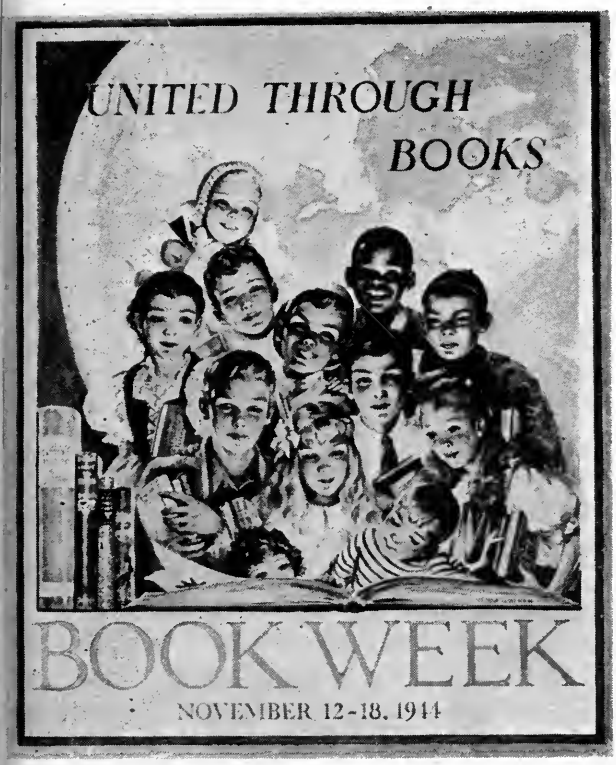
Photography. "Nature and Camera," by Oliver G. Pike. Focal Press Limited, 31 Fitzroy Square, London W.1, England. 13s. 6d. Summing up fifty years' experience in photographing flora and fauna.

New Trailside Museum in Cleveland. A comparatively new development in Cleveland, Ohio, is the establishment of a trailside museum in Gordon Park by the city Park Department. A large field house has been remade into a museum, and a nearby area is being planted as a wildflower garden and nature preserve. Through a cooperative arrangement with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Dr. Arthur Williams will administer the program. Dr. Williams also has charge of the trailside museums of the Metropolitan Parks.

Soil. "The Land We Live On," by Carroll Lane Fenton and Mildred Adams Fenton. Doubleday, Doran, and Company, Inc., New York. 89 pp., illus. $2.50.

(Continued on page 442)

WORLD AT PLAY



United Through Books

DURING Book Week there will be 500 American children's books on display in London. Afterward the exhibit will be broken up into twelve traveling units which will be sent progressively to cities all over England. At the same time we will have here in New York, at Columbia University, 500 English books on display. — From *Publisher's Weekly*, August 26, 1944.

Getting Ready for the Boys

SANTA Barbara is preparing a big reception for its "Johnnies" when they come marching home from war. Johnny's younger brothers and sisters and cousins and friends are going to town whipping a band into shape for the day of the great return. Under the aegis of the city recreation department, instruction in band and orchestra is being given five days a week at schools and playgrounds. The only prerequisite for participation in these "jam sessions" is a willingness to do the necessary practising.

Ten thousand citizens of Santa Barbara went out last fall to raise funds for a civic and recreation center. For five months they worked on a money raising campaign which was successfully completed in June. A building was purchased and deeded to the city. Plans are underway for remodelling it to suit the varied needs of the community. The finished building will have auditoriums, craft studio, gymnasium, conference rooms, play rooms (for adults and young people), and kitchens.

A Use for Discarded Christmas Trees

NOT the least important use for discarded Christmas trees is to provide food for birds. When the tinsel is removed and the tree set out of doors, it can be made attractive to the birds with bits of apple and suet and strings of popcorn and cranberries. The fallen needles will retain their fragrance for a long time if collected and put into small boxes. The trunk of the tree cut into proper lengths will afford receptacles for growing spring bulbs.

They Voted "Yes" for Recreation

IOWA City and Fort Dodge, Iowa, on June 5, 1944, voted in favor of establishing year-round recreation systems. Iowa City recorded 1,129 favorable votes and 403 noes, while voting in Fort Dodge brought out 737 ayes and 555 noes.

Folk Dance Camp at Oglebay Park

MORE than ten states were represented at the sixth annual Folk Dance and Recreation Camp held during September at Oglebay Park in Wheeling, West Virginia. The camp program included different phases of recreation, emphasizing singing games and folk dances, folk crafts, music and outdoor cookery. One special feature was the "Workshop Hour" during which time there was a general exchange of songs, games, dances, home and community recreation ideas.

Boys and Girls to the Rescue!

Boys and girls who had learned to swim and had taken the American Red Cross lifesaving courses in Philadelphia's municipal pools applied in large numbers last summer for assign-

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ments as lifeguards and swimming instructors. Being thoroughly familiar with the routine of the pool, the methods of teaching and the swimming tests, they were welcomed with open arms.

For a number of years these boys and girls have been volunteer assistants in the pools, serving as locker boys and girls, and in this way have gained valuable experience.

Over 80 per cent of the lifeguards and instructors assigned during the 1944 season were proteges of the pools under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Recreation. In addition, a number of veterans discharged from the Navy after overseas duty served as lifeguards.

Altoona Junior Story League—The Altoona, Pennsylvania, Junior Story League has a membership of thirty girls—sophomores, juniors, and seniors in high school. Monthly meetings are held at the home of their adviser where stories are told and discussed. Many of the girls spend their afternoons at the city playgrounds telling stories.

American Ballad Contest — On June 20th New York City's Department of Parks held its tenth annual contest for Barber Shop Quartets. Fifteen quartets, winners in borough contests, held earlier in the summer, competed for War Bond prizes. The audience took an active part in the proceedings when they followed the U. S. Coast Guard Band from Manhattan Beach in community singing.

Flint, Michigan — Still Making Music — In Flint, Michigan, the Community Music Association continues "coordinating musical activities in the life of the people from kindergarten through old age." Here are a few excerpts from the Annual Report of the Association for 1943-44 that seemed worth noting—as reminders, perhaps?

"Community music is not a *kind* of music, but rather includes all kinds of music used for the benefit of all the people. Those who grow to experience the keenest thrill from the finest music well rendered, enjoy the most permanent values."

"The amateur spirit of singing and playing for the enjoyment of participation and the joy to listeners is the mission of the Flint Community Music Association."

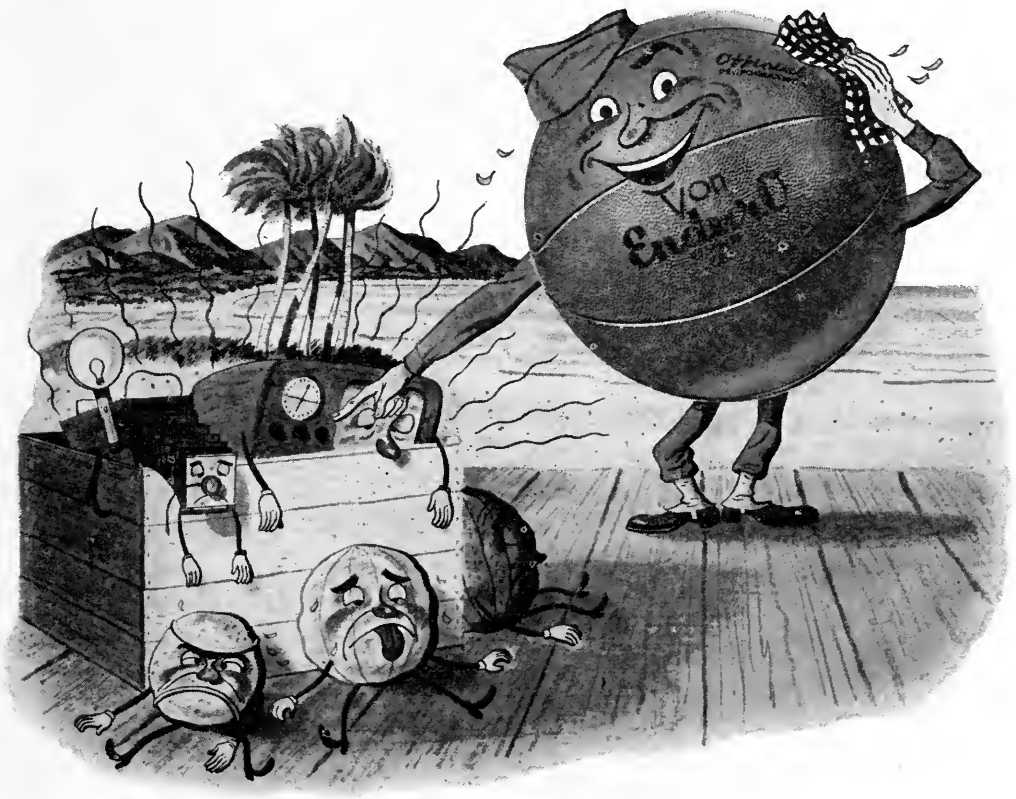
"Character development, wholesome, leisure-time, interest for a life time, self-realization, to serve as a music clearing house, to unify Flint, are the purposes for which the founders brought the Association into being. Culture is a by-product."

"Music is the greatest preventive of juvenile delinquency if properly administered in early life."

Niagara Falls Reports—Myron N. Hendrick, Director of Recreation in Niagara Falls, New York, reports that last summer the city conducted twenty-one playgrounds with a greatly increased attendance and unusual interest in the arts and crafts program, which was climaxed by a display in a prominent downtown store window. The highlight of the summer swimming program was a learn-to-swim campaign in which 132 children were enrolled. One hundred and sixty-two boys between the ages of nine and fourteen took part in the junior baseball program initiated this year.

The Union County Park Commission Considers Its Program—At a meeting of the Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission it was pointed out that 80 per cent of the park system's area was acquired during the first eight years of the Commission's history (1922-1930), about 10 per cent during the past fourteen years (1930-1944), leaving about 10 per cent yet to be acquired of the 4,450 acres in authorized park projects. Of

"While them jerks is molding and rotting, I'm in the Pink!"



As Penicillin, mold is a boon to humanity. But it's murder on ordinary athletic equipment! In the extremely humid South Pacific jungles where the annual average rainfall is 120 inches, the sticky, steaming dampness quickly penetrates everywhere. But VOIT Synthetic-Rubber-Covered Athletic Equipment is not affected!

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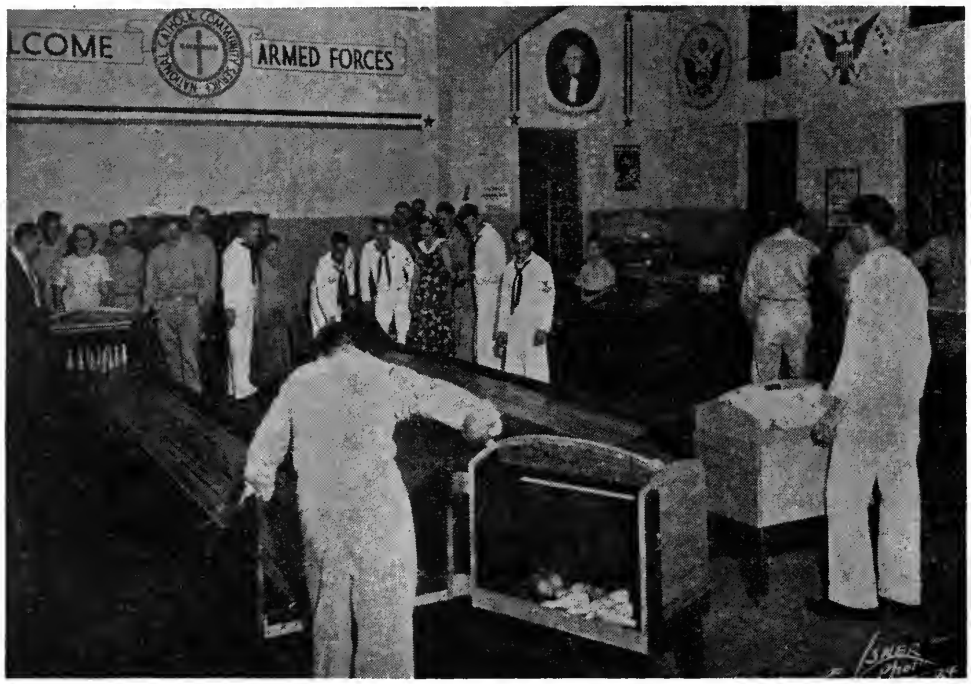

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the 471 acres obtained since 1930, 203 were purchased, 215 donated, and 53 acquired by condemnation proceedings.

The earliest plans and maps of the Commission stressed the importance of preserving the river valleys and of acquiring at the earliest opportunity the necessary lands for the ultimate needs of the public, especially because of Union County's destined rapid growth in that New York metropolitan area. The county's population gain from 1920 to 1930 was 54 per cent, while the state gained 27 per cent and the country gained 16 per cent. Twelve of the municipalities in the county have more than doubled their population since 1920, and one has increased sixfold.

During the past twenty-two years the assessed values of real estate throughout the county have increased 85 per cent with accompanying increased tax revenues for the state, county, and municipalities.—From *Parks and Recreation,* May-June 1944.

"Grid Wars Rage Thru 75th Year"—Under this title Lieut. Vincent DeP. Farrell, USNR, formerly recreation director of the West Side High School of Newark, New Jersey, has prepared a booklet in honor of the 75th season of football. The booklet gives something of the historical background of football, its vicissitudes and successes, the part it has played in college life and in the recreation program of the armed forces.

It is suggested that anyone desiring a copy of the booklet communicate with Dr. Margaret C. Brown, president of Panzer College, East Orange, New Jersey, which is distributing the booklet through its scholarship fund.

An Overseas Package—A leader in the United States Employment Service is sending a package to about two hundred individuals who had formerly been in the Service but are now overseas with the armed forces. The package includes copies of the National Recreation Association's *Community Song Leaflet* and *Fun En Route,* together with a pin-up girl from *Esquire,* a can of sardines, a metal hinged soapbox, and a blackout lighter.

Tenth Annual Chicago Conference — The theme of Chicago's tenth Recreation Conference to be held November 22, 1944, will be "Recreation—New Obligations, New Approaches." Morning sessions will be devoted to workshop demonstrations conducted by local groups and will stress methods of carrying on recreation programs. In the afternoon small groups led by trained discussion leaders will exchange ideas on topics related to the general theme, "Recreation and the Community." Following the afternoon discussions there will be a period of fun and relaxation for those who plan to stay through the evening general session when there will be a dramatic summarizing of the high points of the Conference, followed by an address by Howard Y. McClusky, assistant to the Vice-President of the University of Michigan and former member of the American Youth Commission. There will be a luncheon at which Harry A. Overstreet will speak on the theme of the Conference.

Recreation in Housing Developments—Los Angeles, California, has seventeen public housing projects in which more than 15,000 children are living. The Los Angeles Department of Playground and Recreation, with money received from Lanham Act funds, has employed recreation leaders to work in these housing projects and is also placing directors of youth activities in other neighborhoods where such work has long been needed.

P.T.A. Provides Recreation Facilities—Fifty families are associated with the P.T.A. of the York school in Vinedale, Ohio, and they plan and carry out recreational, social and education activities that are outside the curriculum. One of their main projects has been the provision of a playground complete with running and bicycle track, soft and hard ball diamonds, tennis, badminton, basketball and volley ball courts. Shuffleboard and picnic tables are in prospect—all to be provided by the funds and labor of the P.T.A. members.

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Daniel M. Davis

DANIEL M. DAVIS, for eighteen years Superintendent of Recreation in Wilmette, Illinois, died suddenly on July 14, 1944. When the Wilmette Recreation Board was organized Mr. Davis was selected as its first director and gave continuous service from that time. He was active in many village organizations and groups, and at the time of his death was serving as chairman of the Physical Fitness Program for the Office of Civilian Defense. He organized and directed the work of the Military Training Institute at New Trier High School which has helped many North Shore boys and young men make the difficult adjustments from civilian life to the armed forces.

Post-College Recreation

(Continued from page 401)

ducted from both group teaching and safety angles.

The away-from-camp trips teach valuable techniques. Students learn (sometimes the hard way) that a twenty-five pound pack doubles its weight (apparently) by the end of the trip, and that a little extra this and that tucked in may be the cause of just regrets. The primitive camp group, by the end of the twenty-three day training period, can go out in any direction from base, pitch camp, cook a meal, and sleep in a comfortable bed of pine boughs or willow reeds tied together.

The tall mountains near camp offer three splendid mountain climbing opportunities. To scale Silver Lake range and look out from the top of the plateau over the majestic panorama is an unforgettable experience. Somehow the sun shines brighter, the skies seem bluer, the hills are greener, from the top of a mountain. Against the sun the girls are prepared with tinted sun goggles and sunburn cream or lotion. Lipstick is applied thickly, not for beauty's sake but to keep the lips from chapping. The students know enough to take along drinking water and ponchos and small pup tents for shelter—for storms have come up unexpectedly even when weather reports were previously consulted. Tinned foods are taken along, and extra clothing in case of temperature drops, and stout shoes, the first aid kit. Tenderfeet soon learn not to overlook a single one of the safety precautions.

Although at the end of the season most of the students go out into camp counseling jobs (records show that 80 per cent of those enrolled in the camp training course go to camp jobs throughout the east and northeast, as far west as Montana, as far south as Virginia) all are equipped with training that will last a life time. Perhaps some day they may teach their own children how to pitch a tent or cook a meal out-of-doors, or how to beach a canoe or paddle without overturning, or how to ski down a slope or pack a picnic basket. They will get more fun out of it than they would sitting in a stadium cheering on a college football team or watch third baseman of a pro baseball team catch a fly.

College heads may well ask themselves, in the war period of suspended college sports, how long-term, post-college recreation may be stimulated so that college students may become doers instead of watchers. If more leisure is to be an integral part of the postwar world then post-college recreation is, legitimately, a major concern of today.

An Achievement in Savings

The Treasury Department has announced that School War Savings during 1943-44 by actual count passed $600,000,000, with reports still coming in. The Department urges that boys and girls continue the campaign to purchase a jeep, plane, or ambulance or other equipment which will bear the school's name as War Savings sponsor.

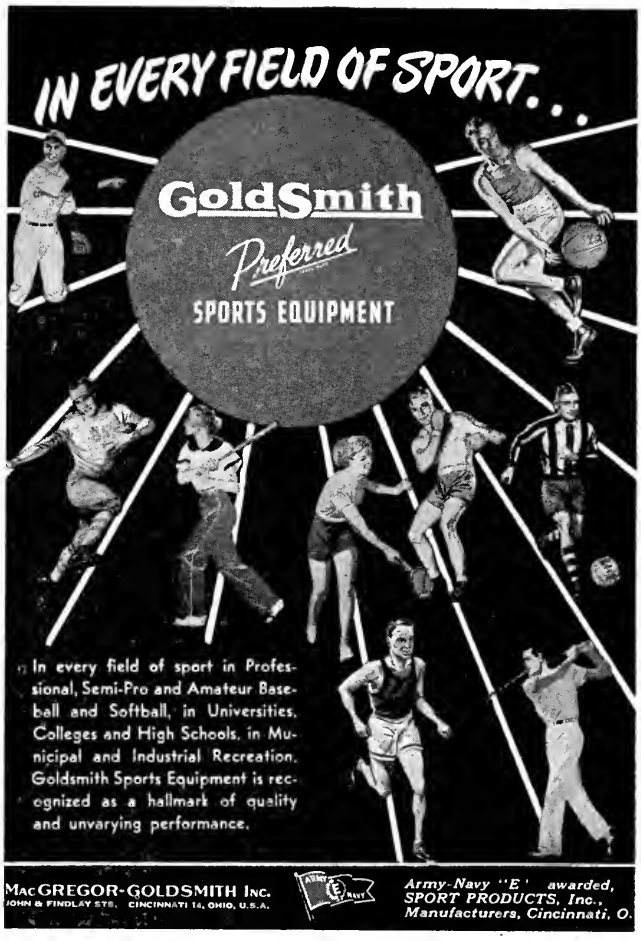
The Treasury Department also announces that since early spring the Treasury War Bond musical show, "Figure It Out," has been produced in at least twelve states. Information about free materials for staging "Figure It Out" may be obtained from the Education Section, War Finance Division, Washington 25, D. C.

Save Us Our Ruins

THE BRITISH MAGAZINE, *Architectural Review,* in its January 1944 issue proposes that "a few of the bombed churches of Britain be selected to remain as ruins, essentially in the state in which the bombing has left them; that they be laid out and planted appropriately; and that they be regarded as permanent places of open-air worship, meditation, and recreation, as national war memorials of this war and focal points of picturesque delight in the planned surroundings of the post-war world.

"In the debates on the future of the city churches nobody seems to deny that there were more of them than the needs of congregations justified. Should they be rebuilt, or should their sites be sold to use the sums raised for erecting churches in suburban areas with inadequate numbers of churches? Both proposals will no doubt be followed. *The Architectural Review's* is a third, applicable to only a few; say two or three in the city and one each in some other towns and cities. The need for short services for city workers, chiefly in the mornings and at lunch-time, is undeniable. The war has shown that such services can be held in the open. Our climate does by no means rule out open-air worship and open-air recreation. The middle ages in Britain had their church processions. Later centuries, right down to the 19th, had a well-developed open-air life, though not a spiritual one. Vauxhall, Ranelagh, Spring Gardens, and many other worldly assembly places attest that. Where chapels and altars are still roofed and usable, open-air services should be established and would be a welcome element in the week-to-week life of the city. The ruined churches which it has been decided to keep as ruins would provide the best setting for them. Seats would be distributed in such a way that quiet prayer would also be possible.

"There is only a short step from quiet prayer to meditation. One is as imperative a need in the life of the city as the other. Both take the office worker out of his daily routine into short moments of a fuller and more genuine life, the life of religion and philosophy — usually, in the untrained mind, religion and philosophy applied to some human problem of immediate urgency. The ruins would encourage such an occasional retreat into a spiritual world, a world apart though close to the bustle of tram and car, a world in which the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The Hanging of the Greens

(Continued from page 404)

now reached the point where people do not want changes because they are listening for certain lines and have a greater feeling of participation in something with which they have grown familiar.

Instrumental music is played while the Christmas tree is lighted and the large candle taken to the hall. The ceremony closes with the singing of familiar carols.

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How to do creative group work in modern dance is explained simply and thoroughly in this important book. The dance leader will find here specific and extensive suggestions for planning and conducting her program, including valuable sections on how to organize a dance club and how to plan and present a recital. 6″ x 9″ **$2.50**

ROLLER SKATING—Bob Martin

(A new Barnes Sports Library title)

This book on modern roller skating will surely appeal to recreation leaders as well as all skaters. The skilled author outlines careful instructions for roller skating in the "International Style," the international standard for pleasure, tests and competition. 6″ x 9″ **$1.25**

DOMINOES—Victor S. Palmer

(An addition to the Barnes Idle Hour Library)

Here is a simple explanation of how to play and win at dominoes, followed by many actual illustrated play situations. Contains complete plans for operating leagues and tournaments in clubs, church and school groups. 5⅜″ x 8″ **$1.25**

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Memento Mori of scorched stone stands near to flower, shrub and tree.

"For the mood of the ruins would not be wholly solemn. Layout would vary according to what aspect would be stressed. The city is in bad need of more open spaces for people to rest and enjoy their lunch-hour. Such open spaces would be gained by the treatment of ruins here suggested, especially if—as has been assumed for one of the sites chosen—an adjoining office site can be taken into the scheme. The standing debris, odd piers of uneven height and rugged walls would prevent layouts from falling into the mistake of official formality and regimentation. Nothing is more resented by the users of public squares and gardens than the raised forefinger of an evidently educational city or borough parks committee."

Children's Book Week

Children's Book Week, celebrating the 200th anniversary of the publication of the first book for children, has been announced for November 12 to 18, 1944. "United Through Books" will be the theme of the Week, and it is suggested that an effort be made to dramatize the idea "the people, the nation, the world."

Army Hospital Recreation

(Continued from page 429)

personnel in the hospitals, and through very simple yet theatrically effective puppets and stages, enables the patients to put on their own entertaining productions.

This is what happened at one of the large hospitals, Mason General at Brentwood, New York, where a group of 199 ward patients were offered the opportunity of putting on their own shows. Nine different shows were put on, with twenty-one patients participating. They produced a variety of extemporaneous shows, using glove-like hand puppets, much simpler to operate than string marionettes. There was everything from a satirical doctor's show skit lasting fifteen minutes to a two hour musical show involving seven patients. One of these shows was set in an hour and a half of rehearsal and given the next day for the patients in another ward.

Not only can ward audiences of fifty bedridden men enjoy these shows, but patients who are able to get about can see one of the better shows in the recreation hall. The stage, with its two spotlights, is planned for audiences up to a thousand or so, and the puppets are easily seen by these large audiences.

Puppets, by their nature, have a natural audience fascination, and the shows that these inexperienced men produced were enthusiastically received. They supplied simple but good entertainment, and excellent diversional activity.

Community Forests

MOST STRIKING has been the rapid development of village, town, county forests in the United States in recent years. These community forests surely will have a deep influence on the people of the United States in keeping up their interest in nature, in making them more nature-minded.

Of course these community forests do have an economic side. Many villages in Europe have received a very considerable income from their town forests. The magazine *American Forests* for August 1944 reports the 4,428 acre forest of an Alpine village of 2,600 people which not only pays all taxes but provides an annual cash income of around $100 to each family.

Already there are about 2,000 community forests in the United States and some of these have been in existence for a good many years.

"Stayintown" Recreation

(Continued from page 418)

tion, and other special features in preparation equally as interesting. Mobile Recreation will also act as a clearing house so that when one community originates some outstanding type of recreation program, it can be passed along to other communities to enjoy. They in turn will repay in kind when they uncover some unusual activity in their midst.

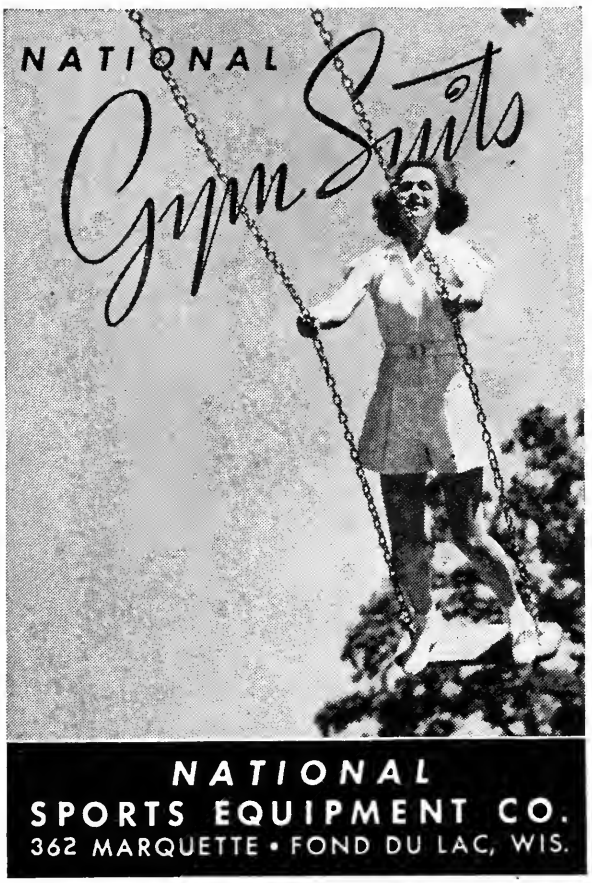
As it has been done in this county, so can it be done in other portions of the United States which like Westchester have county-wide recreation organizations. Communities will begin to realize that the good neighbor policy begins at home among the towns lying in their county and district, and wartime committees are already in existence to turn wartime activities to those of peace. Such a project is already under way in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, where eight or nine towns, pooling their joint resources under the name of the Massachusetts Bay War Recreation Defense Council for the Entertainment of Servicemen, stand ready at the conclusion of the war to put this cooperative association to work on a civilian community basis. Here as in New York, the Pembroke Ration Board played a cooperative part.

Recently when an unsavory carnival played in a community best left unnamed, *The Hartsdale Times* said editorially in part: "We can hardly expect boys and girls to develop honest standards of amusement if we allow this sort of shoddy entertainment. More in keeping with the kind of fun our youth deserves are the 'Stayintown Shows' sponsored . . . by local Recreation Commissions throughout Westchester . . . and hope that the County Recreation Commission will renew its efforts to provide this community with 'Stayintown Shows.'"

And they will. For in Westchester County, Mobile Recreation has come to stay.

The citizens of Oneonta, New York, have had a community forest of 1,212 acres and they have been so pleased over the five year returns that they have now planted more than 660,000 young trees.

Undoubtedly many communities considering living war memorials will decide to establish community forests in honor of war heroes. These forests will have great value for the children and youth, will profoundly influence youngsters growing up during the postwar period.



Let's Have Living Memorials

(Continued from page 415)

One plan is to establish roadside picnic areas, beautified by fine plantings of shrubs and trees, with good water and arrangements for barbecues. Another is the establishment of a sanctuary for wild birds and still another the setting up of a series of areas for the propagation of wild game. One city project provides for the planting of trees along its principal streets, each tree marked by the name of the home town boy who fell in the war.

In Ohio there is already a movement well under way to establish as a memorial to the State's Thirty-Seventh Division a great forest located on land ruined by erosion and bad farming in a central part of the state and equipped with cabins, fishing ponds and picnic grounds.

To me it seems that this new idea of a living memorial is one that should have the most serious consideration from every community large and small. Most of the boys who lost their lives in this war, as in all wars, loved the out-of-doors. They loved trees and swimming and fishing. They loved cooking a good steak over an open fire. They

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loved shooting ducks and pheasants and rabbits. Out of these things came the boys who made our best fliers, our best sailors, our best fighters.

I think any or all of them would prefer to be remembered by a forest or a game sanctuary or a lake than by some useless and possibly ugly cast iron statue or by piles of cannon balls hung round with chains. All of them, some without ever knowing it until they had left the forest and lakes and prairies of America, loved this wide, varied and wonderful country passionately. Why not give them memorials in the terms not of dead stone and cast iron but of living trees and parks, lakes, and clean streams.

NOTE: This article by Mr. Bromfield is used by permission from his syndicated column, "A Voice from the Country."

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 432)

St. Mary's Lake Camp, Battle Creek, Michigan. The Kellogg Foundation Camp facility at St. Mary's Lake was operated for the benefit of Battle Creek children last summer under the direction of Arch Flannery, Superintendent of Recreation. Approximately 600 children attended the camp which is guided by a community council that has a representative cross-section of various organizations.

Trees. "The Woody Plants of Maine, Their Occurrence and Distribution," by Fay Hyland and Ferdinand H. Steinmetz. University Press, Orono, Maine. 72 pp., illus., paper. 50 cents. University of Maine Studies No. 59. This is a key to the trees, shrubs and woody vines of the State of Maine.

"Do Touch" Museums

(Continued from page 413)

the child of the narrow streets, alleys, and backyards into line with the child of Fortune—nothing is denied him, the only limit is his capacity.

The activities of the Museum have certainly broadened the outlook of many who are now grown-up and out in the world. One boy has chosen his career as a result of the work he learned at the Geffrye. He is now working with a pottery firm—he found his talent on Saturday mornings. Another boy wants to become apprenticed to an architect when he leaves school. He learned a lot about town planning at an exhibition held in the Museum.—Used by courtesy of *London Calling.*

Now Off the Press!

IN JULY WE INITIATED a Now-Off-the-Press column for the purpose of notifying you of the Association's new publications. We told you then of *Recreation for Men* ($1.25) and promised to give you information about *Parties A to Z,* the latest in our series of social recreation handbooks.

As the name indicates, there's a complete party in *Parties A to Z* for every letter of the alphabet—twenty-six of them—with directions for games and activities, and suggestions for refreshments and decorations. Classified lists make it possible for you to find easily the type of activity you want. The price of this booklet is 75 cents.

Recreation While on the Mend. This book has been off the press only a short time, but it has been very favorably received and gives promise of being an exceedingly helpful publication and one which will be in great demand. It suggests first of all recreation activities for patients in hospitals and at home — social activities, music, drama, arts and crafts, hobbies, active games, and gardening indoors and outdoors. This is followed by a section suggesting how to adapt activities to individual and group needs. Included here are discussions of recreation in military and naval hospitals, in hospitals in general, recreation for the blind, deaf and crippled, and for the patient in the home.

The final section deals with leadership and takes up such questions as how to approach the patient and arouse his interest and curiosity.

You will want this book, which may be secured for $1.25.

What About Water Colors?

(Continued from page 399)

"feeble things"—the colors are strong and vibrant, and the crisp, direct method of working with a medium of detail is as essentially American as apple pie and ice cream.

It is true that mistakes cannot be painted out. Once on paper, a brush stroke stays put—but that is all to the good. We can't change it so we don't "niggle"—we stand by our guns. If it is too bad we tear it off the block and start another. It sharpens our perception to get the correct shape of the shadow and the spot of light. We do all the things Mr. Alger tells us to do in oils only with an added accent on accuracy, for we can't change our work.

Gym Mats
National Jim-Flex safety mats are used the country over by leading high schools, colleges, YMCA's, and camps because they have proven their worth. Built by experienced workmen from carefully selected materials and designed by a staff of outstanding experts such as John J. Walsh, famous University of Wisconsin boxing coach.
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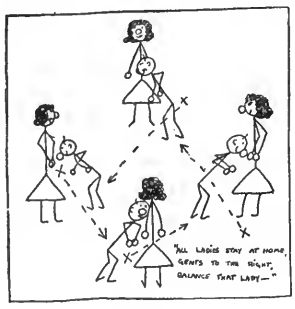
Try it. First forget fear and self-consciousness, then buy some good materials. Cheap water colors and cheap paper produce all the disappointing results Mr. Alger has listed. As he has stated, you will find the people in artists' supplies stores very helpful to beginners. Tell them you want a good book of instruction. I find that an inexpensive book *The Direct Technique of Water Color Painting,* by Charles X. Carlson, is very explicit. His directions for selection of materials, color chart and instructive illustrations on composition and methods will give the most doubting beginner a flying start.

I find it is easier to work on paper that has been dampened, so I use a block with edges glued on all four sides. This gives a good secure surface on which to work and keeps the dampened paper from warping.

It is, of course, easier to work large—the best effects are produced in bold strokes and fluid washes leaving the white paper for highlights. A little experimentation will determine your own preference for painting surfaces.

2 unusual new books for recreation leaders —



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There are many kinds of water color paper. It comes in large sheets, pads, sketch books, and blocks with rough, smooth or matt finish. I prefer working on a heavy paper with a rough surface.

Since I paint only for the enjoyment of it and do not make pictures for exhibit or framing, I have worked out a small set that is like Rebecca's pink umbrella in *Rebecca of Sunny Brook Farm*—"the dearest thing in life to me." It is a small thumbnail box with concentrated colors, a block the size of a post card, and a tiny metal water flask, the top of which hooks on the side of the paint box. It all fits easily into my purse — you know what women's purses are these days.

With this box I'm ready to sketch at the drop of a hat and I have no inhibitions. I'd try the Grand Canyon or the Taj Mahal without gulping, and as for sunsets—the pictures no artist can paint — I take them in my stride. But I've learned to turn my back on them and revel in the long blue shadows and the rosy reflected glow on highlights.

Come on in—the water color's fine!

Joint Planning

SPEAKING ON THE SUBJECT of joint planning by public and private agencies in the postwar period for leisure-time services for youth, George Hjelte, Superintendent of Recreation in Los Angeles, California, cited the following aspects of the youth problem which might well be anticipated in the postwar period:

The return of adventurous, unadjusted youth to local communities and a greater spirit of adventure on the part of youth who, having been too young for military service, have remained at home.

A probable increase of transient youth who because of their age have missed the opportunity for adventure in the armed services, but who seek a substitute and leave home to roam the country. If there should be great unemployment, some will leave home as they did during the early years of the depression.

Unassimilated youth who have taken up residence with their parents in new communities but have not become members in a real sense of the community. Until they have made new friendships, become members of neighborhood groups, and have come under the influence of youth programs many will become behavior problems.

Wounded and shell-shocked youth or youth otherwise rendered inadequate because of the strains of wartime.

Youth of minority groups who will seek recognition and will assert presumed rights bordering on license.

Neglected and forgotten youth—the harvest of wartime preoccupation on the part of parents due to compulsory military service or employment in war industry.

Youth with extraordinary premature mechanical abilities and precociously acquired skills, some of whom will affect the manners of mature persons and others of whom will live adventurously as did the youth in prewar days who terrorized their neighbors by reckless driving in stripped cars.

Youth who have married prematurely.

Buy War Bonds!

As this issue of RECREATION goes to press, the Sixth War Loan drive is getting under way. "Your country is still at war—are you?" is the question the Treasury Department is asking each one.

To Be Remembered

THERE IS NO QUESTION that leisure is a good thing. It doesn't follow, however, that all so-called leisure-time activities are beneficial. As an example, consider the rather futile results of the physical education programs in many schools.

Between 1910 and 1930, cities and towns experienced an upsurge of commendable civic consciousness and erected many imposing senior and junior high schools. In addition to shops, kitchens, art rooms and libraries, the schools had gleaming, spacious gymnasiums, with the accompanying college accoutrements of locker rooms, showers and charts and graphs for recording heights and weights. At this point calisthenics became old-fashioned. The physical culturists wanted the emphasis put on group games. It was not the mode to teach boys and girls to develop lungs and muscles. The important things were cooperation, mellow attitudes and learning to be followers, plus games for later-life leisure-time activities. Unfortunately, as it seems to some, at the same time the fancy gymnasiums came into being there was a movement to carry pupils to school in buses. Perhaps it was felt that if a youngster walked a mile or a mile and a half to school he would be too weary to cooperate enthusiastically in tap-dancing and folk games of Balkan tinge.

Leisure is a lesson learned as one lives. There is leisurely living as well as leisure-time activities. Many adults know that their most enjoyable times are periods when they are free to follow their own desires. Professional proponents of the art are inclined to be overzealous. It is a good thing to have lessons in square dancing for urbanites; but the whooper-up spirit of the affair may be a bit too much for the middle-aged who prefer to eat less and spend spare hours with a time-tried book, to putter hit-or-miss fashion in a lilliputian garden, or follow a work-alone hobby.

Perhaps the answer is organized activities for those who are predominantly extroverts, and self-chosen fields for others. If one works in the midst of people and in the web of human relationships, it is reasonable that the sweetest leisure will be in quietness and peace. The total program is encouraging. There are state and national parks; cities and towns spend moneys for supervised playgrounds; schools have clubs of all kinds; our youth organizations are aware of their duties. Recreation is a big and occasionally a strenuous business. Leisure, we feel, should be a man's private business. Some happy day there may be time enough to get caught up on our reading.—From "Uses of Leisure," *The New York Times*, September 4, 1944.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Parents' Magazine, October 1944
Let Them Have Their Music, Elmer Munson Hunt
Nature Study — Three Flights Up, Louella M. Mockett

Beach and Pool, September 1944
See-saw for the Drowned, Matt Bartley Smith

American City, October 1944
War Memorials That Further Practical Democracy
Postwar Planning As a Joint City-County Project, Andre M. Faure

Childhood Education, September 1944
All Children Are Human Beings (entire issue)

The Womans Press, October 1944
The Health and Recreation of Home Women, Marion Olive Lerrigo

The Journal of the National Education Association, October 1944
The Price of Physical Fitness, George D. Stoddard

Think, August 1944
Yachting in Wartime, Boris Lauer-Leonardi
Music for Industry, Philip J. Jacoby

Parks and Recreation, September-October 1944
Recreation on Public Lands, Roberts Mann
Public Education Through Parks, Sub-committee on Public Education, American Institute of Park Executives
Minneapolis Parade Center May Be Postwar Project, Karl B. Raymond

Minute Man, October 1, 1944
Sixth War Loan (entire issue), War Finance Division, Treasury Department

PAMPHLETS

The Paint and Clay Corner
A Wartime Service by the Newark Museum at Camp Kilmer, N. J.
Newark Museum, Newark, New Jersey

A Handbook for UAW-CIO Recreation Leaders
International Recreation Office, UAW-CIO, 10 W. Warren St., Detroit 1, Michigan. Price 50 cents

Proposed Six-Year Program of Public Improvements
Long Term Improvement Program, Technical Committee of the Common Council, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Floor Treatment and Maintenance Job Specifications
Hillyard Chemical Company, St. Joseph 1, Missouri

Arts and Our Town, A Plan for a Community Cultural Study
The Association of the Junior Leagues of America, the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York 22, New York. Price 50 cents

The Care and Construction of Tennis Courts
1945 Edition, United States Lawn Tennis Association, 120 Broadway, New York 5, New York. Price 25 cents

Working with Organized Labor
E. C. Worman, Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York. Price $1.25

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Roller Skatana

IN AN INTERESTING ARTICLE on the development of roller skating, Roland C. Geist states that roller skating dates back to about 1863 when James L. Plimpton invented the skate on four wooden rollers set in pairs. It became very popular as a sport with Europeans and spread to America. The early roller skates were made with wooden wheels and attached by leather straps. Today we have fiber and aluminum wheels and a noiseless model for use in professional roller skating shows.

Professor Odell of Columbia University states that the years 1884-85 were times of roller skating madness, when skating to band music was the delight of youngsters and older people. Roller skating rinks were opened in abandoned warehouses and factories. In 1885 an international roller skating tournament was held at Madison Square Garden which lasted six days. In about two years the craze died down, but in 1906 roller skating again became popular as a number of popular songs testify. According to figures from the 1939 census (the latest available) the number of roller skates reported sold was 3,454,382; of ice skates, 1,128,185.

The new hobby of Roller Skatana is the collecting of all items related to roller skating. Few books have been published on the subject. One of the most complete is *Amateur Roller Skaters Hand Book* published in 1943 by the Amateur Roller Skating Association. However, there are some old foreign publications on roller skating which were printed in England, Germany, France, and Holland. Other collections consist of the skate itself, of songs, and trade cards. The most popular item of all is the rink label usually attached to the skater's suitcase. A rink at Colorado Springs has a collection of several hundred on its walls. Old roller skating prints are very scarce since few have been made. However, there are some available showing the old rinks of 1885 in magazines such as *Harper's Weekly*. Skating costumes might be collected to show the change of styles.

One of the most interesting and inexpensive of all collectors' items is the scrapbook, which may be started at any time. Whenever an article appears in magazines or newspapers regarding roller skating, it is clipped and pasted into the book. A number of old magazines such as *Harper's, Leslie's,* and *Scientific American,* to mention a few, contain roller items. These may be purchased at any old bookshop.

Highways to New Worlds

(Continued from page 423)

though she couldn't give them quite that much time she went for one week and held five fairs. In 1944 Rockford will have ten fairs. The whole community is conscious of the place of good books in the life of the growing child.

Mrs. Tooze has many stories of the book hunger of children, of parents, of teachers. In Milwaukee 250 parents, including a group of fathers, assembled at 10 A. M. to hear her talk. Because she was booked up she was unable to follow up her talk with a fair there last fall, but the demand for books was so great that school teachers agreed to remain two hours after school each day for two weeks to sell books which she would send them. This fall Mrs. Tooze will hold seven fairs in Milwaukee—two of them in parochial schools, one in a teachers' college.

Lake County, Indiana, was worried about delinquency—as what community isn't these days. Boys of sixteen and seventeen who had never read anything except the salacious literature which was too easily available at any newsstand were becoming a menace to the community. Mrs. Tooze was asked if she would set up a book booth at the County Fair in 1943. Her stall was cheek by jowl with the noisiest concessions of the midway. But at nine in the morning when she arrived there, boys in the eleven to fifteen age group were lined up outside waiting for her to take the sheets off the exhibit. From 50 to 250 people were around the booth all day long—fourteen hours a day. These people didn't know what it was to buy books. To handle them, to look at them, to read a little in them was a tremendous experience in itself. In June 1944, the Chicago papers reported a complete clean-up of newsstands in Lake County. Members of the community feel that this is partly attributable to contact with good books at that County Fair. Some of those boys who were problems are reading now.

Belvidere is a wealthy agricultural community with no adequate resources for children. Until very recently there were no recreational facilities. Mrs. Tooze held a book fair there. After the storytelling hour she told the youngsters—400 of them—that they could come up and make themselves at home among the books. Within ten minutes all but twelve of them had settled themselves to read. The books were supposed to be packed and ready for Mrs. Tooze to take them away by six o'clock. One youngster wanted his mother, who worked until six, to see them. The books were there when the boy brought his mother in at 6:30.

Forty book fairs will be held in the fall of 1944, in Wisconsin and Illinois, Michigan and Indiana. Forty times during the fall children and their parents and their teachers will find a new world opening out to them. Forty times books and their magic will feed into the life of a community those things that are of the nature of faith because they spring from the evidence of things not seen. Next summer, as every summer, Mrs. Tooze will be helping from six to eight thousand teachers to a better understanding of the tools of their trade. She is looking forward to a future day when a little more leisure, perhaps, will enable her to train other people to carry on this missionary work in the challenging world of literature for children. In the meantime she is busy doing what she can for anyone interested, by the remote control method of book lists and specialized bibliographies, by sending out book exhibits, and by giving aid and comfort to any child welfare association and camp group—everywhere.

Cooperatively Planned and Financed

(Continued from page 419)

the children's own words: "The only days I've missed here were those when I was out of town"; and another: "I had to go to my grandmother's for the rest of the summer, but I'd rather have stayed here and played with you."

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

It's Fun to Design

By Kathleen B. Kelly. Girl Scouts, New York. $.75.

IF DESIGNING is as happy an experience as reading this book about it then it must indeed be "Fun to Design." Kathleen Kelly, in thirty pages of delightful drawings and clear, humorous explanations about them, has laid out all the fundamental rules on learning to be a designer. Composition and color, balance and method seem very easy to master after looking into her rules. If anybody who has read through the book can resist the impulse to start right in following its directions he is a real wonder!

Island on the Beam

By Josephine Blackstock. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. $2.50.

RECREATION WORKERS will be interested in this book not only because it was written by one of their own number—Josephine Blackstock has for many years served as Director of Recreation in Oak Park, Illinois—but because of the story itself. *Island on the Beam* is full of interesting information about the island of Malta which, in spite of its prominence in the news, is unknown territory to most American readers. The book tells a thrilling story of immediate interest and introduces a group of characters who experience and endure nobly the most relentless attacks the war has produced.

Miss Blackstock has been asked to contribute a story on Greece to the proposed collection of stories on children of the Allied Nations, soon to be published.

Christmas Carols for Secondary Schools

By Arthur E. Ward and Doris E. Mooney. Harold Flammer, Incorporated, New York. $.40.

THIS IS A NEW BOOK of Christmas carols arranged for young people. The selection of the songs is varied without sacrificing the old and loved familiars. Varied, too, is the arrangement. The editors have used descants, solo parts, girls' and boys' voices separately to add to the fun of chorus singing. The accompaniments, too, are simple. Not a five-flatter among them!

Fun with Clay

By Joseph Leeming. J. P. Lippincott and Company, Philadelphia. $2.00.

IN RECENT YEARS new clays have been developed, clays that can be fired or glazed in the kitchen oven or that are self-hardening. With this development it has become possible for anyone to know the joy of working with clay. *Fun with Clay* is designed to tell the beginner how to start—what tools he will need, what techniques he must learn, what decorations he can use on his finished pot. Chapters on the potter's wheel and kiln-firing are included so that even at the outset the beginner may know of these possibilities.

Keep Them Laughing

By Edna Geister. Harper and Brothers, Publishers, New York. $1.50.

THE PHILOSOPHY which has come from Edna Geister's long experience in directing social recreation is presented here in popular style. Her latest book deals with attitudes rather than techniques. You will not find directions for games, but you will learn the basic logic of fun-making. Incidents and anecdotes out of the author's own experience enliven the text.

Social Recreation Primer

By Bob Tully. Brethren Publishing House, Elgin, Illinois. $1.00.

LIKE ALL PRIMERS, this one deals with fundamentals. It offers advice on planning and carrying through social activities for the small group. It includes sections on the qualifications of leadership, program building and evaluation of an activity. Suggestions for games and other social recreation activities are used as illustrative materials.

Official Guides 1944

A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $.50 each.

THE OFFICIAL GUIDES for a number of sports are now available, among them *Track and Field Guide; Lacrosse Guide;* and *Tennis Guide.*

Also available are a number of Official Guides for Women, including *Basketball* (1944-1945); *Field Hockey-Lacrosse* (1944-1945); and *Soccer-Speedball-Field Ball* (1944-1946). These may be secured at 35 cents each.

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Faith—Christmas 1944

THE UNITED STATES has responsibility with others after the war to prove that life the world over can be beautiful, can have tuneful music, delightful adventure, satisfying drama, thrilling athletic competition, can be a place that gives the soul of man enduring satisfaction.

The world after all is not a place for savagery, for torture, for incredible forms of cruelty, for continued unnecessary physical suffering, for stark endurance that is negative, that gets no one forward. War is a negation of all that makes man most fully man and different from the beasts in the jungle.

There is a dream for mankind that has reality, there is romance of living, there is depth and breadth and thickness and richness and joy to living—once it can be uncovered.

Cynicism, pessimism, brute force is not the last word.

There is satisfying life to be savored together, a comradeship that passeth words. There is beauty beyond description that is for us all.

I do not know whether or not there be milk and oranges and nylon raiment for all who live in Thibet and in Central Africa, but I do know there can be and will be a world in which little children everywhere can smile, can be happy; where grown men and women find daily pleasure in their daily life; where all the people have a measure of freedom to do the things they most want to do; where the songs are not swallowed in the throat; where the feet are not kept from dancing; where pleasure is not frowned upon as unfitting for those who have grown up, because the work is too serious for joy.

First I have faith in America, in the people of America. In the long run the people of America will be willing to pay the price of letting, so far as it depends upon them, the people of all the world have democracy in living, which is of far greater importance even than democracy in voting.

The people of America will be willing that all people everywhere shall have a constantly unfolding richness of life that permits them to do right here in this world what in their best moments they have dreamed of enjoying in another world hereafter.

The people of the United States and the people of the world have the "know how" to establish this measure of heaven on earth now. All that we need is the will to do—the will to pay the price, which is not great—for happiness and deeply satisfying, abundant living depend not mainly upon gold nor abundance of material things, but upon inner spirit, upon providing a little of leadership.

On Christmas Day, 1944, I have faith that the people of the world and the people of the United States will open the way to beautiful and victorious living.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

December

Courtesy Pennsylvania Department of Highways

Alfred Emanuel Smith

By ROBERT MOSES

"He was a pioneer in many fields," says Robert Moses in a tribute to his friend, Governor Smith. "In no other field were his contributions more important, more conspicuous, more lasting, and more influential than in the field of conservation, parks and playgrounds, and recreation."

Governor Smith takes time out for a sandwich at a Boy Scout outing at Bear Mountain

WHEN I FIRST talked to Governor Smith, toward the end of his first term in 1920, about a unified State park program, he said I was trying to sell the State a fur overcoat when it needed red flannel underwear. That was the reaction of a city man thoroughly familiar with municipal parks and playgrounds and enthusiastic for their expansion, but not as yet sold on suburban and rural parks. The Governor was out of office for two years after Nathan L. Miller defeated him in the fall of 1920 and before he returned the compliment in 1922 and went back to Albany. In that interval I saw a great deal of Governor Smith, whom I had met through Mrs. Henry Moskowitz and others, and had really known only slightly in his first term. Often I stopped in at the office of the United States Trucking Company on Canal Street and walked over to the Governor's home on Oliver Street with him. I was a Republican but not in the least sympathetic to Governor Miller's honest and prudent but extremely narrow and arbitrary conceptions of the role of Government in matters of general welfare. I became one of the Smith Republicans and remained one of the Governor's close friends, even in spite of subsequent political differences.

In 1923, 1924, and 1925 Governor Smith became the great champion of State park and conservation improvements. No one was sharper and keener in an argument than Alfred E. Smith. It did not take long to convince him that with the advent of the automobile and the enormous increase in outdoor activities, sports, and recreation, the time had come to substitute a unified, scientific, and adequate State park system for the scattered monuments, scientific, historical, and occasional beauty spots which through accident, private gifts, or the temporary enthusiasm of local people had become so-called State parks and reservations. These scattered places were administered by scores of boards, societies, and ex-officio commissions, reporting directly to the Governor, to other departments, and even functioning with public funds but without Government control.

In 1924 the State was divided into several natural and logical park regions, each under an unpaid commission whose members served for overlapping terms, excepting the Forest Preserve, which

Robert Moses is nationally known as Park Commissioner of New York City, as President of the Long Island State Park Commission, and as Chairman of the New York State Council of Parks. Mr. Moses is serving as Chairman of the Executive Committee selected to formulate plans for a campaign to raise a $75,000 fund for a memorial to Governor Smith.

At the celebration in 1939 of the tenth anniversary of Jones Beach State Park

was under the Superintendent of Forests. The efforts of these regional commissions were coordinated and their budget was prepared by a Council composed of the chairmen of the several commissions with several other members. A $15,000,000 bond issue was submitted to the people to finance the first steps in a unified program based upon recreational needs. This bond issue was carried largely through the enthusiastic day in and day out support of Governor Smith. The Governor said there was no good in having a program unless someone was prepared to head it and see it through. Therefore, at his insistence I became head of the State park system and have continued in this capacity for twenty years.

No sooner did the State park program get under way than a terrific row broke out over the proposed Northern State Parkway running along the borders of the great estates on Long Island, Deer Range Park, later known as Heckscher State Park, in the estate section on the south shore of Long Island, and the Montauk parks which were bitterly opposed by Carl G. Fisher, a developer from Florida. The bitterness engendered by these fights is now almost impossible to understand, especially as those who were ugliest and most vociferous at the time have long since eaten their words and even claim they never were among the opponents.

Long Island in those days was the wealthiest, most snobbish, and most reactionary community in the United States. It was at the height of the great boom when the big estate owners, whose names read like a roster of American big business and banking, and their various allies, stooges, and henchmen in politics, the professions, and the press, were convinced that there was nothing they could not buy and no one who did not have his price. The pressure on Governor Smith was enormous. He had a Republican legislature solidly opposed to him. They crippled not only the new Long Island State Park Commission but the entire State park program by withholding appropriations and by offering to make them only under impossible conditions which would have given them no power to condemn property and would otherwise have restricted their activities so that nothing of consequence could be done without the approval of hostile critics. The Governor called a special session to consider this situation and was beaten at the session, but among my Republican friends were some powerful, astute, and honest supporters of the park program. They went to work on the reactionaries and brought about a satisfactory compromise which got the park program back on the track.

As the head of the State park system I came in for an incredible torrent of abuse and mud-slinging. Efforts were made to remove me from office. At no time during this unpleasant period was

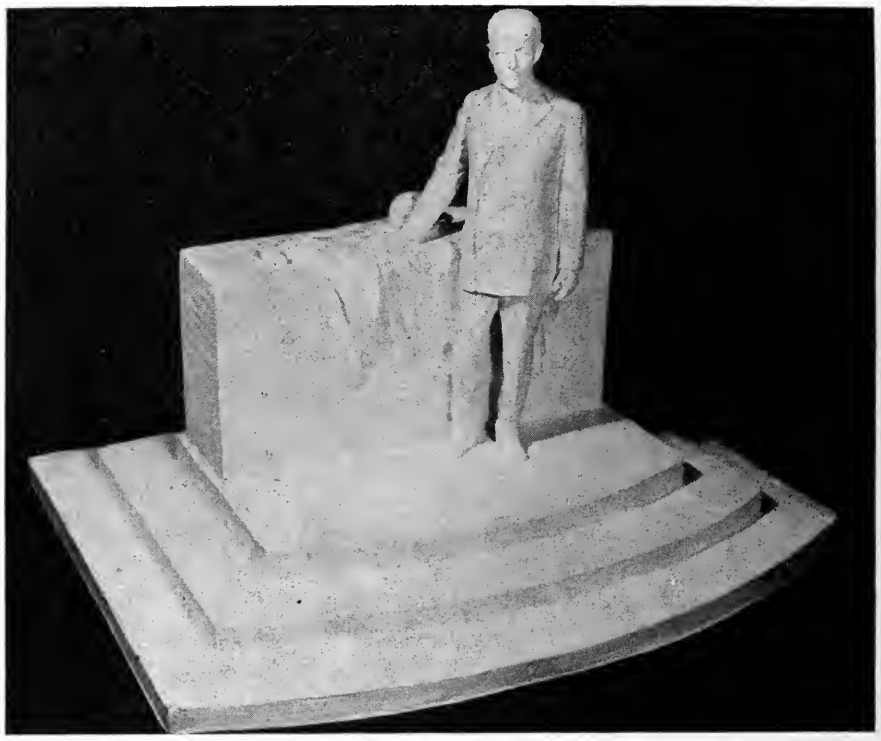
there ever the slightest question about Governor Smith's loyalty and support, and his humor, eloquence, increasing knowledge of the program, his cleverness in debate, and his tremendous hold on popular confidence finally turned the scale and made the program a reality which today no one would dare to upset.

When the Governor retired from public office he became one of the commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park. This bi-state park began in New Jersey, opposite New York City, ran on in a thin line, with occasional larger areas along the top and bottom of the Palisades, and ended in a tremendous forest preserve and wild area of almost 50,000 acres in and around Bear Mountain. It could be used by people from crowded city areas for a few hours, for half a day, a day, over night, and for camping and hiking over longer periods. The Governor took a particular interest in the activities of the Boy Scouts in this area. Of course he never lost his interest in Long Island where he spent a great deal of his own leisure time, and he knew the Long Island parks as he knew the spot under the highway bridge at Canoe Place where he did his flounder fishing.

The development of Jones Beach was of particular interest to him. Here again we ran into enormous difficulties. First we had to get the old Long Island townships which owned the land to give it to the State by popular vote. This took several years to bring about. Then we had to get appropriations from rural upstate legislative leaders who said that no one would ever reach this absurd sand bar thirty miles from New York City, that every nickel spent on making it accessible and usable was an outrageous waste of State funds, and who insisted on cutting the appropriations to a point at which it would have been quite impossible to carry out any comprehensive plan. We used the money they made available to start the work, and one of the most amusing incidents in the long controversy was an inspection by the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means committees with Governor Smith in the fall, when a sand storm covered over the foundations into which we had sunk all our funds and made it look as if these appropriations had indeed been buried. The Governor's faith in Jones Beach was vindicated and it became a feature of the Metropolitan area, famous and familiar here and abroad. Some of our most distinguished foreign visitors said that it was the most unique and extraordinary improvement of a natural resource which we had to offer.

When Governor Smith moved uptown to Fifth Avenue, opposite the Arsenal and Zoo in Central Park, he automatically became the guardian of the Zoo and was widely known as the night superin-

The honorary night superintendent of the Central Park Zoo with two of his charges



Bronze statue of Governor Smith to be erected as a memorial to him in a housing development in New York City which will be named for the Governor

tendent. He knew everything that went on there, called every animal by name, and was delighted because most of them recognized him. It was his favorite hangout and every spare hour he had was put in there, usually with his grandchildren or with other small visitors.

Governor Smith took a tremendous interest in the expansion of the New York City parkway and playground system, often discussed recreation needs with me, attended the openings and flag raisings, and offered shrewd and homely advice of inestimable value.

In the last two years of his life the Governor gave a good deal of attention also to slum clearance for public and redevelopment housing. He was particularly anxious to clean out the old run-down neighborhood north of the Brooklyn Bridge where he and his family were born and lived for many years. He was a trustee of the New York Life Insurance Company and tried very hard to persuade that company to establish a housing project in this section. A number of inspections were made with company officials, and it was interesting to see how many people in the old neighborhood knew and recognized him. When this plan failed we persuaded the city and state housing authorities to establish a state housing project here, to be known as Governor Smith Houses.

In this connection, some of the Governor's friends discussed with him a bronze statue of himself to be placed in the housing development, with steps leading up to it on which the children could play, and with the "Sidewalks of New York" as its theme. We had a model made and the Governor himself gave us many suggestions to improve it. Immediately after his death his friends decided to make this a memorial to be paid for by them, and contributions will shortly be received to carry out this plan. It is estimated that seventy-five thousand dollars will be required to pay the cost of constructing the memorial and of landscaping the surrounding area.

According to the plans which are being made by the group in charge of the project, the memorial will occupy a place in the playground to be included in the plans for the Governor Smith Houses. The housing development will be built in the area in New York City bounded by New Bowery, Madison, Catherine and South Streets, and the Brooklyn Bridge. Thus hundreds of families in Governor Smith's own neighborhood, whose welfare was always a matter of deep concern to him, will be provided with comfortable living quarters.

Governor Smith was a pioneer in many fields. In no other field were his contributions more important, more conspicuous, more lasting and more influential than in the field of conservation, parks, playgrounds, and recreation.

Feet That Dance and Hearts That Sing

By SARAH GERTRUDE KNOTT
Founder and Director
National Folk Festival Association

The Twelfth Annual National Folk Festival will be held May 9-12, 1945, at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, under the sponsorship of the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association. Groups interested in taking part in the Festival are urged to communicate with Miss Knott.

THIS WAS THE HOTTEST summer that has come to Philadelphia in many years! It was not the best season of the year to "go experimenting." Many people were tied up for long hours in war work. Those who could get away sought the cool breezes in the suburbs or at near-by coast resorts. However, there were advantages. Because of transportation difficulties most people had to remain in the city and find recreation in their own communities. There was greater need than ever before for group recreation to relieve the war tension felt by everyone. Young and old roamed the streets and more than crowded the moving picture houses and other places of entertainment.

Elfreth Alley Day

Our first activity was the "Elfreth Alley Day" celebration, June 3rd, commemorating the historic alley which Philadelphians claim is "the oldest street on the American continent, with houses on both sides of the street which have been continuously occupied as dwellings for more than two hundred years." The Alley is a narrow, picturesque street with the original cobblestones and the same houses that existed before the Revolution. For the occasion United States flags hung from the top windows of every one of the two storied houses, giving a gala, holiday atmosphere. Members of the Elfreth's Alley Association, dressed in quaint colonial costumes, greeted people in the old houses opened for the occasion. They led the guests from house to house where original heirlooms of many kinds could be seen.

A Town Crier with his clanging bell cried, "Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!" as he announced the activities in different parts of the Alley or in the courtyards adjoining. The families, grownups and children, sat on the doorsteps or wandered here and there, feeling honored to live in these old houses so enshrined in the annals of the historic city.

From one o'clock in the afternoon until ten in the evening tradition-loving Philadelphians crowded

the narrow street and stopped in the courtyards for tea or to buy Betsy Ross china from the studio. Artists made sketches of any visitor who would pay fifty cents to the Elfreth Alley Fund for restoring some of the old buildings. When the sun went down, many who wanted to stay for the evening's celebration found their way to the historic old Christ Church where Washington worshipped. There in the courtyard in the cool summer breezes a delicious dinner was served by the Ladies' Guild of the Church.

The evening's program was something like a three-ring circus, reflecting the spirit of the old days. Strolling folk musicians and dancers came and went. One end of the Alley gave forth the strains of a guitar and accordion as Italians from the Order of the Sons of Italy, in colorful Italian dress, came down the Alley singing lovely *Santa Lucia* and other Italian folk songs, and stopped on the uneven cobblestones to do the *Tarantella* with gaiety and abandon. On the doorsteps in the central part of the Alley the A. C. Bilbrew Negro Chorus assembled to sing the spirituals that had grown up out of the burden of slavery before and during the period when Elfreth's Alley was young. In the courtyard of one of the houses "Chris" Sanderson, veteran square dance caller, with his musicians, the "Pocopson Valley Boys," carried on a continuous square dance in which as many as could be accommodated took part. Many spectators crowded inside the gates to look on.

When ten o'clock came and it was time for the curfew to ring, down the Alley from one end to the other strolled the Street Criers, crying their wares: "Straw-ber-ries, red, ripe straw-ber-ries"; "pep-per-ry pot, smok-ing hot, five cents a bowl!" "Swe-e-e-t po-ta-toes, swe-e-e-t po-ta-toes!" These old cries awakened nostalgic memories for old Philadelphians who remembered well the days when such cries were a part of the everyday street scene in every part of the city.

Fifth War Loan Drive

Then came the Fifth War Loan Drive. Each Wednesday evening for four weeks beginning June 12th we brought various nationality groups as well as Americans with their folk songs, music, and dances to the auditorium of Snellenburg's, one of the large department stores. When each program started, about one thousand people were assembled to hear the songs and see the dances which represented a cross-section of the folk expressions of Philadelphia. There were Italians, Chinese, Poles, Greeks, Armenians, Filipinos, Hungarians, Ukrainians, Portuguese, and others representing the new American groups that have more recently come to the country and to Philadelphia. There were English country and American square dances, Scottish dances and songs, Negro spirituals, and Pennsylvania German folk songs.

One night some of the British sailors from one of His Majesty's ships in port at the time sang sea chanteys and traditional British ballads which form a common tie between our country and England. On the final night a group of Jamaicans from the work project of the War Food Administration in Burlington, New Jersey, sang the Jamaican folk and popular songs, many of which showed a decided English influence. Musical instruments of the "store-bought" or homemade Jamaican variety were used to accompany the singing.

When this series of programs ended we felt we had served two purposes: one, to do our bit in helping to raise money for the war effort, the other, to give to the participants and the people in the audience the feeling that Philadelphia's cultural life included more than the "Main Line."

Square Dancing—Outdoors and In

The square dance mania has hit Philadelphia, as its revival has touched practically every large city and rural community. When summer came and the indoor dances were discontinued, many people felt the loss. We thought dancing in the parks would be fun. The Supervisor of Recreation for the Park Commission was interested and through him, with the joint sponsorship of the Park Commission and the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, this was arranged.

Our first dance was scheduled for the middle of July at Hunting Park. When we arrived early we saw that the great street space had been roped off

Three years have passed since the National Folk Festival Association moved to Philadelphia. Leaving the nation's capital which had housed the festival for five of its ten years of life was not easy, but the change proved to be justified when, in 1943, the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, the Festival's new sponsor, made it possible to extend community folk festivals in the Philadelphia region as well as on a national basis.

Miss Knott tells us here of some of the activities which have been promoted in cooperation with other groups in the city of Philadelphia and its environs.

Forty sets of four couples each—320 dancers in all—took part in this old-fashioned square dance held last August at the USO-Labor Plaza

by the Park guards. Little notice had been given that the dances were to take place, so imagine our surprise to see several hundred people already lined up around the ropes waiting for the music to start. The sound equipment truck was already in place in the center of the street. "Chris" Sanderson and his musicians were assembling the dancers. From the beginning we knew by the enthusiasm of those present that we were off to a good start and that we were helping to answer a need for summertime recreation in Philadelphia.

About two thousand people were present with several hundred dancing. The next week five thousand were there, with many more dancing. Whole families, hearing the lively tunes, had come from their homes near-by to find out what was going on. Small children were taken into dance groups by themselves and taught the "Heel and Toe Polka" and other simple dances. For the third week we moved to Strawberry Mansion in Fairmount Park where we stayed for two weeks, returning to Hunting Park for the remainder of the season. By the time summer was over people who had known little about dancing at the beginning went through the figures like veterans. The Park Commission and the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association plan to continue the dances next summer, beginning earlier and including more parks.

The Teen-Agers

The teen-age and adult recreation problem is felt in Philadelphia, as in most cities. In August, through the interest of a committee of residents, we had a block party on Allison Street to see how teen-agers would react to the square dance. We took along a number of our "strolling dance enthusiasts," who had followed us from one place to another during the summer. The square dance was new to these young people and the "jitterbug" was firmly entrenched. We were handicapped because we had no loud speaker equipment and it was hard to get the attention of a hundred or more boys and girls out in the open, when they were in such a high holiday mood. We experimented with groups of about the same age at the Southwest Belmont Branch of the Y.W.C.A. and at Oxford Village, one of the Philadelphia's eleven housing projects. We met with the same general obstacles at both places. Though we did not feel satisfied with the results of our first efforts, we do believe that with more definite leadership and better equipment we shall soon be having the teen-agers find

just as much fun in doing the fascinating old square dances as they do in the energetic new jitterbug. One of the boys who came to the first dance to take pictures, joined in the dances and had such fun that we found him at all the other events. The last night he said: "I like these dances. They are the very thing for us kids. We go for the new and novel. That's what they are."

The Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association is issuing a book, *Community Folk Festival Hand Book,* designed as a guide to leaders in developing community folk festivals or in using traditional expressions in a variety of ways. The three sections cover the step-by-step organization of a festival; material giving something of the background of the older traditional expressions and the new ones which have grown up in America, with examples of songs and dances to be found in most communities; and a bibliography of several hundred usable books, with publishers and prices.

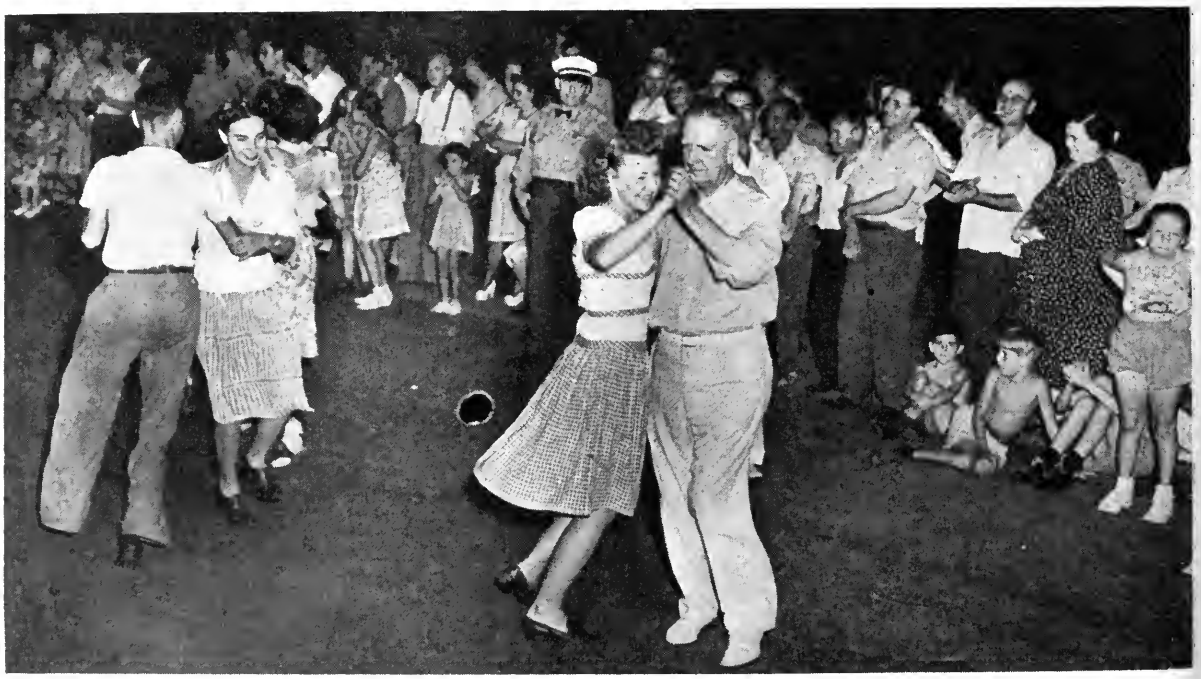
Copies of the book will be available at fifty cents each from the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, 621 Bulletin Building, Filbert and Juniper Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

Folk Activities for Special Groups

On several occasions we went over to the State Hospital at Trenton, New Jersey, through the invitation of the Director of Recreation for the Hospital. There we saw what she had done with mental cases through the use of different kinds of rhythms and square dances. We took our dance leader and musicians, and it was a great satisfaction to see what joy more than a hundred patients had in doing the dances that brought them all together in a community of interest, making them forget for the time being their own personal limitations and problems.

The Labor Plaza, one of the largest USO centers in the country, faces Philadelphia's old City Hall, from whose tower William Penn looks down surveying the land long ago named for him. Here we had square dances out in the open for servicemen and women every two weeks during the summer. We wondered how square dances would go in such a great space with so many people knowing little or nothing about this type of dance. But with "Chris" Sanderson as leader, and the Plaza's regular orchestra playing familiar square dance tunes, the servicemen and women entered enthusiastically into the dances. Often five hundred couples were on the floor with thousands more seated at the tables surrounding the great dance floor looking on and smiling with satisfaction. As we saw not only our own servicemen and women, but enlisted men of the British, Dutch, French, and Brazilian navies participating in the dances, we felt that it was not only a unique diversion for many

When they danced the Heel and Toe Polka last summer at Strawberry Mansion, Fairmount Park



but that it gave these servicemen of other countries an insight into the spirit of the United States as expressed in our best-loved folk dance.

We know that our servicemen and women on far-flung battle lines are glimpsing the spirit of other peoples through native songs and dances. Many of our festival participants have written about such experiences and have told how people in faraway places have responded with enthusiasm when they have led our square dance, or when our Negroes have sung their spirituals. Servicemen and women in this war seem to be the best ambassadors of good will. They, like soldiers and sailors of all times, are borrowing the songs and dances of other nations and are leaving theirs behind them. No doubt this will mean a broadening of horizons for many and will be a contributing factor to international good will.

As the summer days ended and square dancing could no longer be carried on in the parks, we wondered how we should carry forward the interest developed during the summer. Philadelphia has one of the largest adult schools in the country. Four years ago, through the vision of George F. Kearney, who felt the need for recreational activity as well as for adult educational courses of different kinds, the "Junto," a modern offspring of the old "Junto" founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1729, was revived. That it met the needs of many people who were interested in "fun while learning" was proved by the registration of more than thirty thousand people who have enrolled in the school in the last four years.

We were asked to cooperate here in the folk dance division which has been directed for the last four years by "Chris" Sanderson. A hundred and fifty people enrolled in the course this year. There would have been twice the number had it not been for the space limitation of the Mercantile Library where the classes are held.

When Saturday evening comes, the bookcases are pushed to the side and there, amid the thousands of books which represent much of the learning of the ages, the "old maestro," with his homemade fiddle tucked under his chin, fiddles as he calls in Pennsylvania style, "Dive for the oyster, Dive for the clam, Dive for the girl from Alabam," and directs the group through the intricacies of the figures popular in this section.

During the second semester we are planning to expand the folk dance course to include international folk dances taught by persons who have specialized in different nationality dances. Tentative plans are to have guest teachers—some from Philadelphia, others from New York—rotate on different evenings. Another course being planned is one to develop leadership, especially in the American square dance, to help meet the need felt as more and more groups are becoming interested in the use of this form of recreation.

As people in this section have learned more about the plans for the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, we have been asked to cooperate with leaders in the vicinity of Philadelphia. We worked with the Marcus Hood Merchant Seaman's Club in a "Chester Folk Festival," the purpose of which was to raise money for the Christmas fund of the club to provide gifts for the merchant seamen. From Philadelphia we took Irish, Spanish, Hungarian, Italian, English country dance and American square dance groups to meet with Ukrainian, Greek, Polish, and Scottish dancers from the Chester community.

Early Religious Music

We have become interested in the different types of early religious music as we have run across it in developing National Folk Festival programs each year. In these days when every effort is being made to find a common ground upon which to stand, we thought it would be an interesting experiment to find out what common traditions of religious music have been carried down through the years by people of different faiths. We wondered if we might not arrive at a better understanding if we knew the significant differences. During the summer, through the cooperation of the Philadelphia Federation of Churches, the Jewish Ministerial Association, and interested Catholic groups, we started plans for a "traditional religious song festival," bringing together groups of Protestants, Jewish, and Greek Orthodox faiths to present outstanding examples of church music used in early days and those that have developed later. This Festival will take place at Irvine Auditorium on the University of Pennsylvania campus, on February 22, 1945, during Jewish-Christian week.

And so our plans proceed! There are, of course, other folk activities in Philadelphia besides those in which we have been directly interested. The International Institute, the Play Cooperative, and the "Folk Ways," English country dance group, have their weekly folk dances. Many of the public schools as well as the universities and colleges are stressing folk dancing in their physical

(Continued on page 494)

A Christmas Message

By FLORENCE HALE

Reprinted by permission from "The Last Word," by Miss Hale, which appeared in *The Grade Teacher,* December 1942.

WHEN I STARTED to write this Last Word, I found it difficult. I could not help thinking of our boys, scattered all over the world at Christmas time, fighting our battle of democracy. It seemed as if, in spite of the desire of each of us at home to do everything we can to help, our contribution is so trivial in comparison with what they are doing out there.

I knew that was not the right spirit in which to approach the Christmas message, so I gave it up and dropped into a moving picture theater where I sometimes get inspiration. The picture was a beautiful presentation of an old subject. I hope you saw it—"The Great Gift," based upon the old opera, "The Juggler of Notre Dame." On the screen the theme was presented in a way which has special significance just now. You may recall the story:

The Juggler falls ill at the door of the monastery and is tenderly cared for by the good monks. The youngest of them all, a brilliant, tempestuous youth, longed to see God, but found it hard to overcome his human frailties. There was the old monk, whose sweet charity was evident in the way he replied to the Juggler's insistence that he must not stay because he had no money to pay for his care: "We have no money, either," gently replied the old monk.

And with the coming of spring approached the the festival of the Blessed Lady, when choicest treasures were placed upon the altar as an offering—beautifully wrought silver candlesticks, lovely carvings of wood, iron candelabra, and a profusion of Easter lilies.

The Juggler looked on and wished to do his part, to show his gratitude. But he had no skill in these things. His only treasures were his clubs, with which he performed marvelous feats. He eagerly approached the others at their work and said, "See! Here are my best clubs! I offer them gladly to the Blessed Lady!"

The young monk replied quickly, "Oh, I hardly think . . ."

But the old monk, quick to sense the hurt to the Juggler's feelings, but thinking he could not accept the clubs, said gently, "You must not give up your clubs, for they are your means of livelihood."

And so the great day came and the marvelous gifts were heaped upon the altar. And the time had come for the Juggler to depart. He stood on the threshold, gazing at the wonderful gifts. He felt he must give something. If it were not the clubs themselves, would not the Blessed Lady accept the very best performance he had ever given?

And so he went softly down the aisle and, before the altar with his clubs, he performed his magic acts.

The young monk saw and was shocked at the sacrilege and the old monk, summoned hastily, felt likewise. Then, a miracle happened! A veil seemed to pass for a moment over the statue of the Blessed Lady. Look! She moves, comes nearer, then stretches out her hand in blessing upon the head of the Juggler and, with a look of surpassing tenderness, shows that his act has been pleasing in her sight.

Here was the answer to the things

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". . . Not the greatness of the thing we do; not the value of the gift we make; but only that we give our best! That brings a blessing upon the small things that even you and I can do at this Christmas time. This is our inspiration for the coming year."

Print by Gedge Harmon

Going on the Air?

By ANNE I. FAULKNER
National Recreation Association

"Potentially radio is the greatest publicity medium so far discovered. Actually it is the most difficult medium to use effectively."

In this article we have tried to point out some of the things to be kept in mind by beginners in radio publicity, some of the pitfalls to be avoided, and some of the steps to be taken in starting a program. And just in case you find our presentation a little discouraging, we'll tell you in later issues of successful experiments being carried on.

ARE YOU ONE of those executives who have just had a brilliant idea for publicizing the work of the Recreation Commission? Have you decided to go down tomorrow and ask the manager of the local radio station for half an hour each week — or maybe an hour even — for telling people about your program? If this is a thumbnail sketch of you about to go into action, beware, take care! There's a green-eyed monster peering over your shoulder who can do more harm than any gremlin you've ever met!

Once John Q. Public had decided that "radio is here to stay," the people who had something to sell —whether the product happened to be Ivory soap and Oxydol or a community service—began to see the possibilities of radio as salesman extraordinary. Potentially radio is the greatest publicity medium so far discovered. Actually it is the most difficult medium to use effectively.

Consider your problem as director of recreation for Podunk, U.S.A. The development certainly, the very continued existence possibly, of your program depends upon the backing of the people of the community. Many of them know nothing of what you are doing. Others are skeptical, to say the least. Some of them believe in a community recreation setup, but they want to be kept in touch with what is going on. Newspaper publicity, dodgers, posters cannot, you feel, bring to all these people the full, dramatic story of your activities. So you think of radio. You know Joe Doaks, manager of radio station WXYZ. He believes in this thing you are doing. He is a public-spirited citizen. He will give you time on the air and, since everybody in Podunk listens to the radio, your problem is solved.

Problems of Radio Production

The chances are you are right about Joe Doaks. He probably will give you the time—fifteen minutes anyway—for a program. Not only is he a public-spirited citizen interested in recreation, but a certain amount of his station's time is reserved for programs "in the public service" by agreement with the Federal Communications Commission without whose sanction his charter will not be renewed. But neither Joe Doaks, nor Chairman Fly of the F.C.C., nor all the executives of all the 399 local stations rolled into one can assure you a listening audience for your program, not even in Podunk where *everybody* listens to the radio.

Just think about radio for a moment. Forget that you are a director of recreation with a story to tell and think of yourself as Mr. Average Listener. You come home from the office, eat a good dinner, light your pipe or cigar or your cigarette (if you're lucky) and read the paper. These evening chores attended to, you turn on the radio. You are lord of the dials in your home in the evening, so you can take your pick of programs. If you want to be amused you can have the best known comedians or actors in the country in variety show or drama. You can listen to quiz programs prepared by experts. Maybe you prefer an evening of music. The best dance bands or the best symphony orchestras or the best soloists are yours for the flick of a wrist. If what you want is a serious discussion of world politics well-informed experts will give it to you. Each program is carefully planned, thoroughly rehearsed, aided by the latest technical improvements that science can put into a network studio. Whether you know it or not, you and every other radio listener are "subjected" day after day to the best radio talent that money can buy. Whether you know it or not, you are a connoisseur of radio. And so is every other listener, rich or poor, businessman or farmer, man or woman or child. That is the kind of competition that you, the director of recreation in Podunk, will be up against.

Furthermore, nothing under heaven can make

any listener "keep tuned to this station." To turn off a program is much easier than rolling off a log. Why, you haven't even paid an admission fee which might make you sit through a poor movie just to "get your money's worth." Yes, you're going to have some tall planning to do if that fifteen minute program is going to be listened to.

What Kind of Program?

Where will you start with the planning? What is your first question? Obviously, "what kind of program shall we prepare?" That will depend upon what you want the program to do, upon what you want to say, and to whom you want to say it. Let us assume that your main purpose is to tell as many people in Podunk as possible as much as possible about the recreation program. You *can* do several things. You can ask the Mayor and the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and the President of the Woman's Club and the Chairman of the Ministerial Union to say a few well-chosen words on "What Recreation Means to Podunk." At the end of the fifteen minutes you will have the husbands and wives of the honorable speakers still listening—maybe you will have a few of their intimate friends. The chances are that the rest of the audience will have turned to *Amanda of Honeymoon Hill* or to the *Lone Ranger*.

Well, how about getting the playground children together for a variety show? *That* will kill two birds with one stone. It will give the community a sample of the program at the center and give the youngsters a chance to shine, which they need. Have your ever *listened* to one of those programs? Have you ever listened—with an unprejudiced ear—to a dozen or so untrained and unselected children's voices over the radio? If you haven't, do before you even think about such a show. Remember, you can't *see* the children. You can't see their eager faces, their delight in being on the radio! You can only hear them. This is not to say that if you have carefully selected voices, tested over microphone, trained in a carefully rehearsed production planned by people who know something about radio—you can't do a very successful variety program with children that will delight a large audience. Witness "Coast to Coast on a Bus." But if you haven't got all this or a reasonable facsimile—steer clear of variety programs or any programs with children. You're not apt to have it in Podunk.

What, then, is the answer to your problem? You could do a fifteen minute dramatization of a story that comes out of your program. Better still, if your friend, Joe Doaks, the station manager is willing, you can do a series of fifteen minute dramatizations for thirteen or twenty-six weeks. This kind of a program has proven through the experience of many agencies to be the most successful method of telling the story of a community program.

Best Time for the Program

Your next question will be *when* to put the program on. Here you are in the hands of Joe Doaks. He is a business man with a valuable commodity to sell. That commodity is *time*. Never forget that fact when you are dealing with him. His working day is divided into chunks. Some of it is allocated by agreement to network programs which he had promised to carry. Some of it is sold to sponsors, individuals, or concerns who have paid good money to advertise their products. You will get some of what is left. And you will get it where Joe Doaks sees fit to give it to you. You can bank on one thing. It won't be the "hour" you want! This, however, is not an unmixed evil. If you did get that fifteen minutes between 6:30 and 7:30 on Sunday night you would be competing with some of the most popular commercial programs on the air. So, a most amazing paradox, the "best" time is almost inevitably the worst time for a program originating locally. You will, probably, have some choice. To make the most of it you will need to consider, once again, the audience you are trying to reach. Is it the women of Podunk? Then your best time will be the morning or early afternoon. Is it the youngsters of the community? Obviously they will be potential listeners only outside of school hours. Is it the whole family? Try to get a time in the early evening.

If you have to choose (for a single spot program) between fifteen minutes all for recreation or five minutes on an already established program (such as *Mary Jane's Advice to Women*) with a ready-made audience, *by all means* take the latter. A five-minute interview in the skillful hands of Mary Jane, who undoubtedly has a following, is worth infinitely more than those fifteen minutes you would struggle to fill. The moral of all this is that radio time is more relative than Mr. Einstein's famous theory, and needs to be considered from many angles.

Getting the Program Ready

Now that you have decided on the kind of program you are going to use and the time for it, all

you have to do is get a script, find actors and director, produce it, and promote a listening audience. Your troubles are just beginning. The most important single consideration is getting a good script—a script that will hold the attention and the interest of listeners from the first word of the announcement of the program to the last bar of the musical signature. *Just anybody can't write such a script!* Script writing is a definite and well-defined craft. Occasionally, it is an art—not often. So, somewhere, somehow, beg, borrow, or steal the money to hire a professional script writer to do the job. In Podunk this will probably be the only expense you will incur except a small sum for promotion (of which more later). Because Susie Jones, your secretary, writes a good, chatty letter is no sign that she can turn out a script good enough to hold an audience. If you cannot *possibly* juggle the budget to allow you to pay for a script—if you *must* have a script written by an amateur—then turn the job over to an amateur who is willing to listen to the best in radio, to read published scripts, to study the craft before pen is put to paper.

When you have your script, cast it with great care. Remember, *each voice* must be different. Your actors have only their voices to work with, because your audience has only its ears with which to follow the script. Nothing is more distracting to a listener than not to be able to tell at once which character is speaking. Choose characters wisely. Bear in mind always that the audience must see with their ears.

Promoting an Audience

Now let's go back for a moment to you and Joe Doaks. Joe Doaks has given you a valuable present. He has made you a gift of time, and in radio time is essentially money. You, in return, owe Joe Doaks something. First of all you owe him the best program you can possibly secure. Your program, ideally, should produce letters and postcards and phone calls and personal visits commending Joe Doaks on his sagacity, praising him for making a contribution to the community's radio listening. Your program, ideally, should "sell" Joe Doaks' station to the people of Podunk.

You owe Joe Doaks (and your program) a promotion job. It is up to you to tell the public *in advance* about the radio treat in store for them. It is up to you to tickle Podunk's curiosity through newspaper publicity, through dodgers, through posters, through announcements at clubs, by word of mouth, in any other way you can think of. It is up to you to see that the public is anxious to know what kind of program you will give them. You owe it to Joe Doaks to promote a listening audience for the time he is giving you.

And you owe it to Joe Doaks to come into his station as a guest—not as if you owned the place. Unless you are the exception (which is unlikely) you don't know nearly as much about radio as you think you do! Certainly, unless you have at one time worked in a radio station, you don't know what "make the wheels go round." Let the people who *do* know the ropes tell *you* what to do. Don't you tell them. Incidentally, if you take an intelligent interest in what is going on—an *intelligent interest,* mind you, not a nagging curiosity—you will probably get a lot of help from Joe Doaks and his assistants, and, therefore, a better program. It might not be a bad plan to take the time to read a book like Earl McGill's *Radio Directing* (which is well worth the reading in any case) before your program gets under way. It always helps to know the special terminology of any group you're working with.

A Last "Don't"

By this time you probably think the game isn't worth the candle. There are too many *do's* and *don'ts*. Well, here is a last don't. Don't feel that way! Radio is the best way to publicize your program. Only radio, like all good things, must be used, not abused. The more you know about its pitfalls, the less apt you are to take a header into them. Radio is by way of being one of those things that looks so simple that everybody thinks he can use it without thinking or without plans. The point of this article is to say that this is very decidedly *not* the case. Nobody expects Podunk to compete with WABC or the National Broadcasting Company. But, because of what the National Broadcasting Company and WABC have accomplished in sending fine programs to everybody, Podunk must be on its toes when it undertakes to go on the air. It is not impossible for Podunk to put on good programs. But good programs, from Podunk or Radio City, take thought and care and work.

The more you of Podunk listen to the network programs—listen to learn not *just* to enjoy, listen to what you *think* you don't like as well as to what you know you do—the better chance you will have of putting on the air fine programs of your own.

"Food Fights for Freedom"

By CLIFTON BOYACK
Summer Supervisor of Playgrounds
Berkeley, California

"Food Fights for Freedom" was the theme of the successful Country Fair which was held last summer in Berkeley, California

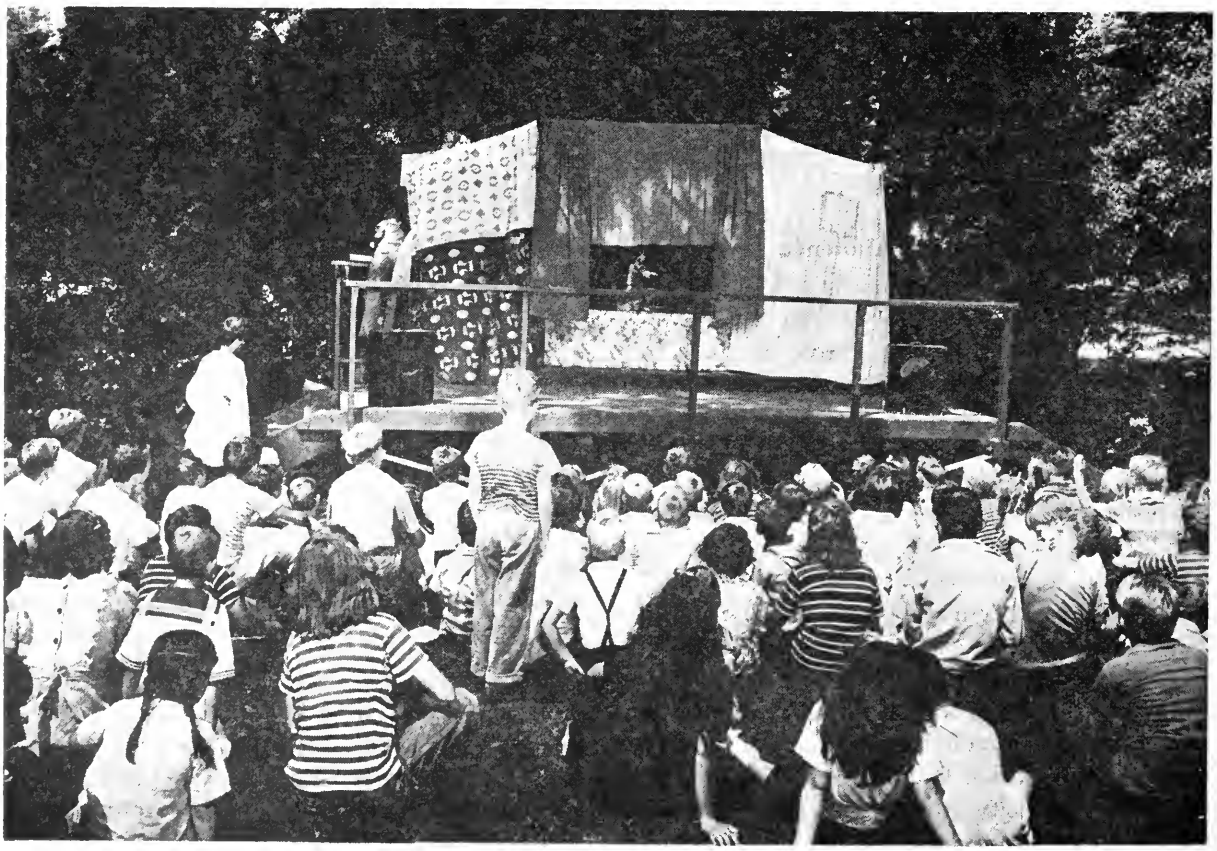
CLIMAXING an intensive summer program in which home vacations and other patriotic necessities had been emphasized, the Berkeley Recreation Department tried a new unique idea in city recreation planning by holding a country fair on August 26th. Traditionally the last big event in the summer program has been the playground circus; but due to war conditions it was thought advisable to tie the outstanding summer event in with the thing with which everyone is most concerned — the winning of the war. The theme "Food Fights for Freedom" was selected early, and the planning of the fair was built around that theme. Interest, built up during the victory garden contest which the Rotary Club sponsored under the auspices of the Recreation Department, was capitalized upon, and early letters were sent to all victory garden entries inviting them to exhibit their victory garden produce.

Displays and Exhibits

In addition to the displays and exhibits in victory gardening, there were divisions of homecraft, home canning, and home grown "livestock," as it was called. This included the meat-producing birds and animals that help in the war effort or aid in the trying days of meat rationing.

Four divisions were established for judging, with small groupings in each

The marionette show was a free feature of the lunch hour program which also included a ventriloquist, clown acts, and specialty numbers



Courtesy Berkeley Daily Gazette

Courtesy Berkeley Daily Gazette

A small portion of the enormous crowd at the "big show" which watched the magician performing some of his incredible tricks

division to add additional interest. There were junior divisions, including those sixteen years of age and under, and senior divisions for those over sixteen. It was strictly an amateur show as far as the contest was concerned, but several commercial exhibits added interest and variety to the display materials. The types of displays included victory garden display, individual vegetable display, flower display, homecrafts, animal husbandry and canning. A display entitled "miscellaneous" showed the largest egg, the biggest pumpkin, and other "super" exhibits. There was a poster contest — a junior entry entirely — which was carried on through the city playground directors as a part of their handcraft program. Stamp and bond sales, and "winning the war" ideas were prevalent in the poster entries.

Special points of judging were worked out and prizes were offered in the various divisions, which ranged all the way from a $25.00 war bond to boxes of garden fertilizer and garden plants.

The exhibits were open from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M., and during that time an estimated 5,000 people visited this part of the fair and gained suggestions and interest in homecrafts and victory gardening.

The exhibits and contests were only one phase of the fair. The usual Gay-Way was there with more than a dozen games of skill at which to try your luck. Everything—from a bean bag toss, called "choke Hitler," to a penny arcade of small interesting games—was offered for the enjoyment of the fair crowd. On sale, of course, were hot dogs, pop, ice cream and peanuts, to make the day complete. The playground children, under the direction of their playground directors, were in charge of these concessions and food sale events, and it was evident that the boys and girls, from barker to cashier, were enjoying themselves to the utmost. Concessions were one cent or five cents, and prizes were given in the form of red, white and blue pencils, canes, and leis.

The decoration committee did yeoman service in placing huge banners and flag decorations around the fair grounds at Live Oak Park; and with the banners and crepe paper on the booths, which were specially constructed for the occasion,

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Official U. S. Navy Photograph

Bermuda—by Motor

By JACK P. HOULIHAN
Chief Specialist (A), U.S.N.R.

THE AMERICAN tourist is back in Bermuda. He is taking in all the sights that made this island a Utopia for vacation-seekers in peacetime. He gets around, this wartime tourist—but he gets around with a difference. He uses that *rare avis* of island transportation, denied by legislation to even the wealthiest of peacetime visitors, the motor vehicle. It's a different type of tourist seeing the island now. His habit is not the usual slacks and shorts of the prewar traveler. He is wearing Navy Blues this trip, and he hasn't time to see the sights from a bike or a buggy.

U. S. Navy Recreation and USO authorities were distressed by the hundreds of lonely sailors on the streets of Hamilton. With a day to spend in Bermuda the men of the fleet wanted desperately to see all there was to see on the island. Bike and buggy were too slow and too expensive. The recreation leaders solved the problem by organizing motor-caravans. The USO information center was used as a starting point.

Take a typical day in the life of the "Pearl Harbor of the Atlantic," as the late Frank Knox called Hamilton. A ship is in for a day. The crew spill over the streets. For a while they roam around looking at the town. But before long they drift into the USO wanting to know "What's cookin'?" Well, there are Navy trucks outside and a tour of the island is "cooking," and for each sightseer there is a recreation guide of the island put out for the Navy by the Red Cross. Sure—see the island without "pumping a bike up and down those dusty roads!"

The boys pile in and start on their tour. The tour conductor—from the Navy's Welfare-Recreation staff—is familiar with all the island's points of interest. He knows, too, something of its history and local customs, its flora and fauna. First stop is the Flatts USO Club, formerly the swanky Coral Island Club. Here the boys drink cokes and eat homemade pies, or take a dip in the ocean or a boat ride.

When thirst and appetite have been assuaged, the caravan moves across the inlet to the world-famous Bermuda Aquarium. Sharks, Morays, giant turtles, lobsters, and many other forms of marine life abound in this ancient collection. Experts on the "life and customs" of tropical fish are on hand to answer questions and supply bits and pieces of piscatorial lore.

Next it's "Down De Roaad," as the native 'Mudian would say, to stop off at another peacetime tourist attraction — Devil's Hole. This natural phenomenom is a cavernous body of water where scores of huge rockfish and

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"The opinions or assertions contained in this article are the private ones of the writer and are not to be construed as official or reflecting the views of the Navy Department or the naval service at large."

A Suitable Stable for Hobby Horses

You can ride a hobby almost anywhere, but it's not a bad idea to have a place where hobby horses can be stabled comfortably!

THE OLD BUTTER MARKET in Guelph, Ontario, wasn't doing anybody any good. It just sat there beside the City Hall with an air of faintly pathetic desuetude, its usefulness outlived. Or so it seemed until the town's youth groups got the idea of turning it into a handcraft center for Guelph's townspeople of all ages. The idea was born in the winter and a committee of seven craft-minded citizens went to work on plans. The City Council blessed the project with free rent, free light, free heat. Ingenious minds worked on the problems of how to devise homemade equipment. The Optimist Club struck a bargain with the planning committee. The Club members agreed to provide the machinery if they could use the shop on the nights when the center would be closed.

While all this was getting done—while benches and vises were being whipped up on the premises, and a marvelous blackboard of tempered masonite with nails to serve as guide lines as well as their usual purpose was being built, the program was already getting under way with four craft groups started at the "Y." Enthusiasm among these groups was so immediate and so great the planning committee knew that though they might have a bear by the tail they had a rainbow around their shoulder. Classes in water colors and oils, in pottery and woodworking, were open to anyone for a six months' period at a fee of $2.00 for adults, $1.00 for youngsters under sixteen.

During the spring, $500 was contributed by Guelph firms to buy the rest of the necessary equipment. On September 25th, the center was officially opened and classes were begun. The main room of the barn-like structure became the weaving house with three looms. Here women of all ages struggled with their first weaver's knots, revelled in stringing the looms with the bright colored thread, felt the excitement of throwing the shuttles for the first time. What difference did it make if their thumbs tangled in the threads? This was the first lesson. There would be others when skill would grow with pleasure in craftsmanship.

In other rooms nine amateurs—lovers of their work—were learning to manipulate materials and tools new to them. In the leather and linoleum block room a young girl, busy with the first stages of a braided leather belt, called wildly for help, "What do I do *now*?" Hand-woven sheepskin gloves, bedroom slippers, leather accessories, linoleum block prints would be in the making there before long. Already designs were being worked out

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Sufficient space, adequate materials, and good tools make a hobby doubly enjoyable

Paul Parker Photo *Courtesy National Girl Scouts*

Better Recreation for Our Youth

By DOROTHY THOMPSON

In the November, 1944 issue of the *Ladies' Home Journal,* Dorothy Thompson, discussing the growth of juvenile delinquency, asks herself the question—"To what can it be attributed?"

RECREATION is happy to publish extracts from Miss Thompson's reply, reprinted by permission from the *Ladies' Home Journal.* Copyright 1944. The Curtis Publishing Company.

THE CRISES that come in societies and nations are always due to a time lag between new developments and existing institutions. Organized societies of people are never living in the same epoch in all phases of their lives. Their institutions tend to become frozen in some previous pattern, while life itself assumes incompatible forms.

Thus we are confronted right now, in our so-called "enlightened" times, with unparalleled juvenile delinquency. It has enormously accelerated since the war began taking mothers from their homes, banishing fathers to far places of work or even across the seas, and filling the movies and papers with accounts of violence. But juvenile delinquency cannot be attributed to the war, although the war has increased it. It was steadily increasing long before the war. To what can it be attributed?

. . . In truth, the rise of juvenile delinquency must be attributed in large part to the rapid change taking place in the world, the instability of society as a result of it, and the inadequacy of previous institutions in the light of it. This is especially to be noted in the inadequacy of organized recreation for children and teen-agers.

A generation and a half ago the very concept of "organized recreation" seemed a contradiction in terms. Even in those days the "teeming city" was developing, but it was not so teeming as today, nor anything like so characteristic of the American way of life. Commercialized recreation had hardly begun. The average home was not nearly so comfortable, sanitary or laborsaving as it is today, but it was larger. A larger proportion of the population lived on farms or in small towns, and children organized their own recreation, in the neighborhood. Canned entertainment had not yet arrived with movies and radio. Imaginative children found pleasure for their fantasy in books, and the village libraries were its chief source. Swimming holes and skating ponds had to be reached on foot, and children organized expeditions to them. The back yards and farms of neighbors were the natural play centers, and through the kitchen window somebody's mother, if not one's own, usually "kept an eye peeled" to see that the children did not get into too much mischief. Visual glimpses of far more exciting worlds, in the films, than were afforded by Sauk Centre or Big Tree did not take the edge of enjoyment off a strawberry festival or a Grange picnic.

Millions of American children still amuse themselves in much the same manner as Huckleberry Finn or their fathers and mothers did. But there is a difference—the difference is in the line of vision and the knowledge of possibilities. They are not so contented because they are more sophisticated. Even in the smallest hamlet there lives no child who has not participated, vicariously at least, in a much larger life than that encompassed by his own village. The child and teen-ager are more demanding, as a result.

And the great cities have become vast anonymous work and living centers. A whole village can live in one apartment house and no single family know another one. The child cannot play in his neighbor's back yard; he can, at best, play with the neighbors' kids in the streets, or in a city playground. In all cities the playgrounds are insufficient, and in no city are there anything like adequate "playgrounds" for teen-agers, who no longer care for sandboxes, swings, horizontal bars and other grade-school amusements. Teen-age sports are baseball—but for baseball you must organize a team, and out-of-school schoolmates tend to scatter; and tennis—but no city has more than a handful of free tennis courts in comparison with the potential demand; and table tennis, badminton, swimming, horseback riding—but these are still the sports of those who can afford to pay considerable fees for them.

The theory, therefore, that the teen-ager goes home from school at three o'clock, with a free Saturday, and spends his out-of-school time in healthful sports and creative play is a holdover of

a simpler and less complex age. Literally millions of children do not. If they have the change, they drift into movies; or with a pal, they hang around drugstores. Where parents can afford it, they send their children to private day or boarding schools, where afternoon recreation is organized and supervised. But the number of city parents who can thus provide for their children is extremely small, as is the number of city public schools which include organized recreation in out-of-school hours.

Teen-agers hate continual obvious supervision by their parents. They would rather go to the movies with a pal or a girl friend than with mother. Wherever they go, they tend to go alone, or with one another. But in great cities these children, on whatever object bent, are absorbed into the anonymous mass, once they leave their own doors. Mother cannot call up Mrs. Simpkins or Mrs. Jones in New York, as in Woodstock, Vermont, to ask, "Have you seen Mary or Jimmy?" There is, therefore, not a conscientious parent of a fourteen or sixteen year old boy or girl, living in a great city, who has not worried time and again, when the child, supposed to be spending the time in some appropriate place, fails to appear when he or she should.

If they go to one another's homes, what is there to do? The home, more likely than not, is a relatively small apartment, without garden or yard. In a supervised apartment house, it is relatively safe from fire or burglary. But there supervision ends. Often young adolescents gather in such apartment homes without an adult present at all.

The sexual precocity of the children of this generation may be largely attributed to these things: greater opportunity for sexual experimentation and play, less opportunity for vigorous healthful outdoor sport, and premature stimulation of the sexual instincts through the movies and the radio.

The small-town teen-ager is bored with the occupations that satisfied his parents at a similar age. He expects transportation to a lake three miles away and, if it is not available, he won't set out on foot. His father did because he had to. The boredom of teen-agers in small American towns in this generation has been vividly described by sociologists and novelists, but still the myth persists that the small town is practically a paradise for youth. Actually most of them encourage loafing.

A few progressive small towns have developed recreation centers, with a stage for amateur theatricals; with table-tennis equipment, well-selected magazines, a swimming pool and tennis courts for

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Courtesy South Minneapolis Youth Center

Living Memorials

National Groups Pass Resolutions

A RESOLUTION was unanimously adopted by the convention of the American Institute of Park Executives at Indianapolis, September 25-27, 1944, declaring:

"Inasmuch as we are engaged in a great war and many of our young men and women are giving their lives for our country and our way of life, we, the members of the American Institute of Park Executives do urge that each park district actively consider the creation of living memorials to the memory of our fallen countrymen, such memorials to take the form of memorial forests, parks, parkways and plants of various types, together with appropriate structural developments designed to be of service to the community; that every effort be made to include provision for the adequate maintenance of any such memorials which may be created; that all park agencies participating in such a living memorial program make a report of progress at each annual meeting of the American Institute of Park Executives."

During the discussion on Design, led by Alfred MacDonald of Wichita, many members expressed themselves as believing that most of those in the armed services were opposed to the erection of such memorials as would remind them of the war. The general opinion seemed to be that any structures erected should give a recreational service. — From *Parks and Recreation,* September-October 1944.

Another group advocating living memorials is the American Legion which recommended by resolution the erection of a state memorial in Albany honoring veterans of World War I and of the present war, and suggested that communities erect such living memorials as buildings and recreation centers.

FOR REMEMBRANCE

How will you remember us
When war's alarms shall cease?
What signs upon the country's face
Will mark the cost of peace?

Shall we who died for freedom,
For love of things we've known—
The swimming hole, the new-ploughed field—
Have monuments of stone?

Remember us, we beg you,
The boys who loved you dear,
With monuments to freedom
Not travesties of fear.

In lakes and reaching forests,
Cool parks—a field for play
Where children, happy, fearless
Come eagerly each day.

These are the things we cherished
When lost in war's cold mists.
If you would build us monuments,
Remember us like this.

Canada Plans Living Memorials

"BUT SOME THERE BE who have no memorials. . . . Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name liveth forevermore." To the memory of these men and women, and for the greater glory of all the living, Canada is dedicating parks and gardens.

The mid-October Bulletin of the Ontario Parks Association notes three living memorials now developing in Canada. A permanent Peace Memorial Park will be constructed on the border between Ontario and Manitoba and financed jointly by the two governments. The site of the park is thirty miles west of Kenora.

Memorial trees may be planted in the International Peace Gardens as soon as the war is over. Municipalities, towns, villages, or individuals may participate in this program. Ten dollars from a municipality or five dollars from an individual will plant a tree, place an identifying marker on it, and give it "perpetual" care. The trees will be planted in groups or in avenues as the plans for the garden dictate.

Ten thousand acres of lake and woodland lie across the Ontario-Minnesota border between Lake Superior and the Lake of the Woods. Six thousand acres of land, submarginal for agriculture, but "super-marginal" for man's delight is available for a park area. Ontario and Minnesota are planning to develop this land for an international park, a war memorial to the men and women of both countries who died in World Wars I and II.

A number of other projects are under consideration. The Hamilton Board of Control has voted to recommend to City Council the expenditure of $1,000,000 for a war memorial arena in Scott Park, and $500,000 for park developments.

A Decalogue for Parents

By PHILIP L. SEMAN
General Director
Chicago Jewish People's Institute

CHILDREN BY AND large are inherently and instinctively good and wholesome—mentally, morally, and physically clean. Adult America has refused to face this fact. Young America demands its recognition.

A boy of sixteen in Chicago has called the parents of America to account. His ten-pronged advice to parents regarding their responsibility to their children was weighed carefully and found good by delegates to the Chicago Youth Congress held to discuss the problem of juvenile delinquency and to suggest cures.

Dr. Seman, the Chairman of the Chicago Recreation Commission, is a member of the Executive Committee of the Conference for Youth, organized in October, 1943, whose members are drawn from religious, civic, and business organizations. Its object is to provide young people with the means for protecting their interests through their own initiative and management.

The particular Congress from which the "Decalogue for Parents" emerged was attended by 250 delegates representing 176,000 high school students from public, parochial, and county schools.

Here is what youth says to its elders in its Decalogue:

1. Make a friend of your child; take him into your confidence; be his buddy, not his policeman. Remember you were a child yourself. Show your child the right way by example. Make him proud to be your offspring.

2. Make it your business to know the whereabouts of your child at all times, but don't allow him to feel "haunted."

3. If a child errs, it is chiefly because he has never been shown the right way; hence, don't punish him to excess, but show him where he has faltered. Show him the right way with kindness.

4. Disciplinary action should not be shifted from one parent to the other as exemplified by the commonly heard phrase, "Just wait till your father comes home." Threats of this nature soon become

so weak they go unheeded. The only accomplishment in making a statement of this sort is the child's loss of affection for his "discipline-parent," and a realization of the weakness of character in the other parent.

5. Don't give your child the impression that he is a nuisance when adults are present. Make him feel that he is a vital member of his family unit and that you are counting on him to fulfill his obligations as such.

6. It is the duty of every father to explain to his teen age boy the facts of life, and his debt to society as a man. If the father is unable to cope with this task, the family doctor should be consulted, so that the two can sit down together, "behind closed doors" and have a man-to-man chat.

7. It is likewise the duty of every mother to explain to her adolescent daughter the fundamental truths about life, impressing upon her the righteous trends of young ladies of high character.

8. Keep the doors of your home open to your child's friends—make his home his castle. If his home life is wholesome and enjoyable he will not seek the haven of pool rooms and cheap movie houses that attract others.

9. Encourage church attendance. Here he will find many attractions awaiting him, such as clubs, dances, parties — and at the same time he will acquire a code of morals and ethics which are extremely vital in regard to his present and future relations with people.

10. Instill within your child a love for his country. See that his energies are utilized in Red Cross work, scrap collecting, bond selling, and other patriotic movements of high caliber. A busy child has no time for immoral practices.

The Youth Congress elected an executive committee from its membership. That committee has been working steadily and has developed some excellent projects. The executive board of the Congress is planning an exhaustive survey of Chicago's recreation facilities which will be presented for action at the fall conference. Another committee will survey the causes of juvenile delinquency. The young people have set up a speakers' bureau and are accepting invitations from various groups in the city to speak on the subject, "What Youth Is Doing to Help Solve Its Own Problem."

The Conference is also sponsoring a thirteen-week series of radio programs over WBBM to be known as the Young People's Platform. On these programs four boys and girls from the Conference will discuss juvenile delinquency and what youth can do to solve it. Among the topics to be discussed under this general heading are: "Granting that youth had the power to change conditions, what would you propose doing first to effectively combat juvenile delinquency?" "Do you think radio, movies, and newspapers are doing all they can to help solve this national problem?" "Do you think it should be made mandatory that parents be brought to trial along with their children who are delinquent?" "What agency, organization, or force do you think could most effectively prevent juvenile delinquency?"

One of the projects of the Chicago Conference for Youth is the publication of a series of pamphlets showing the folly of juvenile delinquency. These booklets will be written by boys and girls to other boys and girls advising against the errors that children unthinkingly permit. The executive committee of the Conference will help with the editing and preparation of this material.

NOTE: There are available a limited number of the reports of the Chicago Youth Conference held

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THEY SAID—AT THE YOUTH CONGRESS

"At the present time we have all recognized the problems of juvenile delinquency, but perhaps we have overlooked the problem of parent delinquency, which is in coordination with our problem. In many cases where people of high school age are delinquents, it is partly due to the parents. They are working in war plants and they have not made the proper arrangements for the care of their youngsters of grammar school and high school age. I propose that we draw up some form of instructions in regard to their children, and how their children are to be looked after. Many children are allowed to roam the streets while their parents are unaware that they even have children."

"There have been men who have spent their lives studying sociology and psychology. They can't come to a conclusion, and as a last resort they have come to us, the youth, to tell them our ideas. That is why we are here. We have spoken, and we have come to the conclusion that the adults—possibly our parents—are at fault for juvenile delinquency. All right, let it be so. We have at our disposal newspapers, magazines, and other means of communications to the adults of the country. Let's have this Youth Conference in Chicago draw up a second Ten Commandments. Let's draw up a set of rules to the parents, to the adults of the country. If we blame them, let's aid the situation. Let's educate them through these newspapers, and let's get down to brass tacks."

At the New York City Center

There was a time when art was for the privileged few. But now comes an entirely different conception. Art is for every man, rich or poor, with no racial or other barrier.

To CREATE at the New York City Center an inspirational focal point and a model for future art centers, and the spirit of a new and greater democracy to come, is the vision of those men and women who are working closely with the center, according to Leopold Stokowski, who has donated his services to the center for the duration of the war. The noted conductor, in announcing some of the specific plans for the remainder of the season, also discussed the broader concept of the center as an eventual home for all the arts, and as an example of the kind of practical idealism which can flourish now and which should obtain when there is a wider base for musical culture possibly to come through government sponsorship.

Immediate events under his direction will be the concerts of the New York City Symphony which have already been successfully launched, a series of concerts for students to begin after Christmas, a Christmas festival for and by children, and the production of two contemporary operas.

Special Students' Concerts

"We are going to schools, colleges, universities, vocational schools and orphanages for audiences for our special students' concerts," said Mr. Stokowski. "They will be still more informal than our regular symphony series. I shall discuss certain passages in the works to be played, have these passages played, explain the ideas of structure, orchestration and development, not academically but simply, and then let the music speak for itself. Soloists will be chosen from among young talented Americans of the students' age range — 15 to 25, and music of young American composers as well as of the great masters will be played.

"Students will participate in many other ways. They will write program notes as a project in English composition classes, and design the program cover and posters to be displayed outside the theater and in the foyer as projects in their art classes. They will also assist in the distribution of tickets.

"At the last student event, several of the best student orchestras will give the concert. Each will play a work under its own conductor and all will join in one work to be selected, which I shall conduct."

Beginning this Christmas, it is the hope of Mr. Stokowski to give an annual holiday festival for children. This year there will be one performance two days before Christmas eve and two performances on Christmas eve, the second to begin at 11:20 and end at midnight, when Christmas bells will be heard. The birth of Christ will be depicted in costume on the stage by children in pantomime, while the orchestra plays in the pit, and at the sides and up steps to the stage, forming a frame, will be ranged the Collegiate Chorale, whose conductor is Robert Shaw. Music from Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" and Yule folk music from all over the world will be used for this presentation. Behind the stage will be a transparent screen on which will be thrown projections by a noted projectionist, Sondheimer, with designs and costumes by Robert Edmund Jones. Other collaborators will be Anita Zahn, a former Duncan pupil, and Helen Parkhurst, founder of the Dalton School.

"It is fundamental with us," Mr. Stokowski declared, "not to have 'specialists,' but to work as comrades together on the entire presentation. I am interested in the music, but so are Mr. Jones and the others, and I am concerned with the staging and all the other elements of the production. So we shall not have 'credit lines' but shall simply call ourselves collaborators in the whole conception of the production."

The symphony concerts have been divided into Fall and Winter series, and the Tuesday evening concerts at 6:00 will continue at that hour as long as it seems a

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Because the experiment in the democratization of art at the New York City Center is so significant, we are reprinting some extracts from an article by Frances Quaintance Eaton which appeared in the November issue of *Musical America*. In this article Leopold Stokowski discusses his aims and plans for the Center which, he hopes, will be "truly representative of our national and universal culture."

The Part of the Y.W.C.A. in Community Planning

By GRACE L. COYLE
Western Reserve University

Miss Coyle's article, though addressed to local Y.W.C.A.'s, contains so much of interest and help to all community agencies planning recreation programs that we are reprinting it. Recreation workers will especially appreciate Miss Coyle's plea for the support of public recreation bodies and the expansion of their facilities and programs.

The article originally appeared in the September issue of *The Womans Press*, and is reprinted by permission.

THESE ARE DAYS when there is a great deal of peering into the future and of getting ourselves ready for what that future may bring. Postwar planning is going on with varying degrees of realism and effectiveness in practically every organization, public and private. When circumstances are in the present exaggerated state of flux it is natural that we should try to keep our footing by attempting to see ahead and to plan accordingly.

One of the healthiest habits to cultivate at such a time, I believe, is to look realistically at the present since in it the seeds of the future must already be found. In thinking of the future plans of the Y.W.C.A. in the community, therefore, I should like to point out several very important trends already evident. I should then like to discuss briefly what meaning these may have for those responsible for planning the organization's program.

Important Trends

The first trend that is of major importance to the organization is the increased recognition of the value of recreation and informal education for all sections of the population. The evidence of this new recognition can be seen in the following familiar facts:

The extensive provision of such services as essential for the armed forces, under the auspices of the government itself and of the USO and the Red Cross.

The rise of the teen-canteen program in many communities and the growing awareness of adolescent needs.

The extension of recreation services, especially to war-impacted communities through the Recreation Division of the Federal Security Agency.

The opening, with Lanham Act funds, of day-care centers for the school-age children of working mothers as well as nursery care for younger children.

The organization under OCD and in the extracurricular program of public schools of war-service activities for children and youth.

The increased pressure on all the regular agencies for more services.

These are only the most obvious developments with which we are all familiar. Taken together they indicate, I think, a sudden expansion in demand for all kinds of activities, programs, equipment and leadership which amounts to a new place accorded these services as essential for the whole population.

As this expansion has occurred it has become increasingly clear that it is of three distinct types. The great bulk of it consists of activities of recreational or light educational value which exist for straight purposes of diversion, entertainment, relaxation and the pleasures or profit derived from the activity itself or the sociability connected with it. In the second place, there is a type of program, carried on principally by the large private agencies, in which activities are to greater or less extent permeated by certain specified educational purposes of the organization. These purposes presumably color the recreation and add, to the pleasures derived from the activity itself, certain social values, cultural interests, religious concepts or "character-building" results which have been defined by the organizations under whose auspices the activity is set up. Familiar illustrations of this difference can be seen in the program of a typical public recreation center compared with the program of the Y.M.C.A., the Boy Scouts, the C.Y.O. or the Jewish Center. Not all public agencies are without flavoring—as witness the 4-H clubs or the Junior Citizens Service Corps of the OCD. Not all private agencies are in actual fact providing activities with any distinct flavoring—as witness much of the athletics, dancing, adult education classes carried on in the Y.W.C.A. This difference lies not in whether an agency is public or private, but in whether a specific activity is actually pene-

trated to any real extent by purposes beyond those of the activity alone. This is admittedly hard to distinguish but roughly the difference is clear and is well recognized by all of us in the field.

A third type of service developing slightly here and there is the use of group relations and recreation activities for treatment purposes for individuals who are physically, mentally or emotionally handicapped. This is found in the military hospitals to some extent, in certain clinics, in camps for the handicapped and in a few community agencies.

A second major trend is the new place given to programs for youth. The place given to youth programs in the totalitarian countries, and recent new developments in England, have hastened the recognition that these programs of the large youth-serving agencies are an essential part of the way by which society prepares its young to participate successfully as adults. Such programs, along with the public school and the control of work experience for the young, are outside of the family, the major instrument through which we can bring each generation into its proper place in our society. Here again I think the war has hastened a realization of the social significance of these organizations—of which the Y.W.C.A. is one. The need to define how youth activities are to be carried out in democratic countries is now of concern to those responsible for such programs.

A third major trend of special importance for the future of the Y.W.C.A. is the changing place of women. As during all recent wars, women have, since 1940, moved in increasing numbers into work outside the home. In many cases, they have had to assume responsibilities for bringing up children without the immediate help of the fathers. They have been urged to go into new lines of work but always with an overhanging uncertainty as to whether their place will be secure "when the boys come home." There seems to be considerable evidence that women have made no marked advance into more skilled or more responsible jobs and certainly there is no proof that they can rely on a "grateful country" to guarantee them their newly won positions when the war is over! Many, also, are having unusual and inevitably unsatisfactory experiences with marriages in which the war prevents the necessary adjustments or makes it impossible for them to start as they should on the making of permanent homes of their own.

A fourth important aspect of our social scene is the changing picture of race, religious and nationality relations. This is bringing belated and all too slight advances in certain ways. It is also increasing tension, and at points is giving rise to flagrant expressions of prejudices relatively new in America and full of serious import for the future.

These are only a few of what seem to be elements in the making of that future for which the Y.W.C.A., along with other

The Penn Dutch Canteen at York, Pa., is only one example of the many services essential for the men in the armed forces

There is need for the extension of recreation services so that many more children may enjoy such events as the doll show at Chester, Pa.

similar organizations, is now trying to plan. What bearing do they have on its projected program?

Their Bearing on the Program

The first step is to recognize the distinction previously mentioned, between the provision of "unflavored" recreation and the provision of a program which has a unique core of social ideals and purposes. In these days when the demand for recreation services is rising there is great pressure on existing agencies to provide anything and everything to meet urgent needs. The Y.W.C.A. must obviously not retire to an ivory tower or merely "keep its home fires burning" regardless of the demands of those outside. On the other hand, it should not lose its identity and become a recreation or education center without any flavor of its own.

The Y.W.C.A. must, it seems to me, do three things simultaneously. First, it should unite with other organizations to push for expansion of public recreation facilities of all kinds. This will provide the minimum of equipment and leadership to meet the insistent demand for more recreation activities. Instead of being somewhat afraid of such developments—as has sometimes been the case—it should see that the demand for basic recreational opportunities is so great that it can be cared for only by public sources. Much of this recreation should be free, available to all parts of the population and for those who want it without the necessity for accepting any organizational flavor in order to get the activity. Such an extension of these activities will relieve pressure on the Y.W.C.A. to do things not vitally within its function and will free its money, staff and equipment for its unique functions, I believe the pressure for adequate public recreation facilities should become a part of the Public Affairs program.

In the second place, the Y.W.C.A. will need to accept the fact that it may be a long time before enough such facilities will be provided publicly. In the meantime, it cannot refuse to help meet urgent community need. As an emergency measure, therefore, it might carry on for war workers, small boys near a branch, boys and girls without a decent place to dance, and similar groups, a variety of activities which meet straight recrea-

tional needs but do little else. These will often be indistinguishable from those of any other agency, public or private. So long as they are recognized as temporary expedients which the Association is carrying only until they can be taken over by the public or by some other more appropriate agency, they will not get imbedded in the program or confuse the real purpose of the agency.

As a third step, I believe the Y.W.C.A. needs to sharpen and define even more clearly that core of social ideals which is its special contribution to the social scene. Such a core is obviously a living and changing entity, shifting with the times—but still expressing a certain unity which grows out of the traditions of the organization and the ideals of its present leadership. This is clearly no place to define such a core. It is the function of the whole Association to do so, both formally through its convention and informally through its everyday contacts with people in its community.

It seems to me that in the days ahead the core of social purpose of the Y.W.C.A. should give some clear guidance at certain crucial points. Judging by its past and by what I know of its present, I would suggest that this guidance be focused on at least the following: (1) Assistance to women in dealing with the new problems arising around work and marriage—problems which the postwar period will sharpen still further. (2) A clear stand against racial and religious discrimination as inconsistent with the Christian purpose of the organization. (3) A dynamic belief in the need to extend democratic participation into areas of our social life still dominated by feudal ideals. These include certain industrial relations where unions are not yet admitted to active participation with management. They also include certain kinds of community organization like Welfare Federations or Councils of Social Agencies where larger participation should be sought from minority groups, labor, and others not always consulted at present. This might even include board and staff relations inside the Y.W.C.A. itself in a few instances! (4) Assistance in defining a new world order based on the responsibility of each nation to the whole and an appreciation of cultures other than our own. (5) An interpretation of religion adequate to our times.

I am, no doubt, only listing the obvious in mentioning these five points as the preeminent contribution — or potential contribution — of the Y.W.C.A. It may well be that there are other equally important facets of its life. All I am urging is that it should not be swamped by the demand for recreation services and merely go out to provide them—at least not permanently. I hope rather that it will say in clear and compelling ways what it believes about the important meaning of life for our generation. Moreover, as it constantly defines those meanings it must work more effectively on securing the participation of its members and constituency in the process of such definition and also on promoting such a program through its community.

Joint Planning Essential

Finally, I should like to make one further suggestion about the contribution which the Association might make to its community. In nearly every community now, large or small, the Association works with others in some kind of federation or council. It is through such bodies including both public and private agencies that the planning should be done for the total volume of recreational and educational services. The experience of various organizations which are trying to work together in this way points up the need both for skill in cooperative effort and for a new kind of organizational ethics. If such planning is to be done effectively, a new type of leadership will have to emerge.

The Y.W.C.A. can help to develop this type of planning, I believe, by its own attitudes and methods. It can do such things as the following: (1) Encourage a generous and cooperative relation between public and private agencies or between potentially competitive youth agencies. (2) Urge representation in planning bodies from important groups not usually included—as mentioned above. (3) Refrain from organizational jingoism or extreme individualism and try to get others to do the same. (4) Insist upon high levels of qualified personnel with adequate salaries based on competence and without sex or racial discrimination—not only for its own staff but in all agencies. (5) Maintain orderly and fair procedures in such overhead bodies, thus helping to eliminate vested interests and power politics among agencies. (6) Help planning bodies to concentrate always on the services to be rendered and the need for them—not on the maintenance or promotion of the existing agencies as ends in themselves. Here again I am only suggesting areas in which I believe new steps need to be taken.

The Y.W.C.A. cannot plan for itself alone. It must play its part in the wider community both by

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Village Green

By A. G. STREET

Reprinted, by permission, from the December, 1943, issue of *Britain*

NO ONE, presumably, planned the English village; like so many other things peculiar to Britain it just happened. Yet in some respects this natural happening followed a definite plan. For instance, the houses of the village have always rallied, so to speak, around the church, the inn and usually the school.

Adjoining these three key buildings was a patch of green grass of from five to ten acres. In some counties this was unfenced, in others it was a fenced pasture field used primarily as a grazing ground for stock; but, fenced or unfenced, farmed or not, it was the village recreation ground, on which all sport, shows and outdoor jollifications took place.

No villager ever thought of it as The Recreation Ground, or referred to it familiarly as "The Rec." That sort of thing was scorned as merely weakness of towns; villages preferred the names handed down from generation to generation. Thus, unfenced, this piece of grassland was known as The Village Green; fenced and farmed, it boasted all sorts of titles such as Show Place, Circus Ground, Cricket Field, or simply Ten Acre.

Since time out of mind the work of the villagers was done in the rolling fields around the village, but their pleasure was enjoyed upon the Green. Until war came, here was held the annual village Flower Show—in July so that it should come between haymaking and harvest when the land could be neglected for a full day without much harm coming to it. In a flat green pasture a large ring was fenced off for the mounted gymkhana, a huge tent for the flower show, and also, something difficult to believe today, hundreds of cars parked in the shade of immemorial elms.

Inside the tent it was much too hot for comfort, but not too hot for interest; for here the squire's garden competed with the cottager's, and the justice of every award was criticized by dozens of qualified experts. One overheard such remarks as, "Ees, I beat Bill Brewer fur taters, but nobody cain't touch 'im fur onions. Ye zee, working fur the butcher, 'ee kin git blood." A gruesome thought perhaps, but an undeniable advantage to Bill.

If you wished to take the taste away, you moved on from vegetables to homemade wines, discovered that well-matured parsnip wine has a stiffish kick, and perhaps managed to buy a bottle of mead. Of course, to sell mead without a license was illegal, but who cared? After all the village policeman was outside watching the jumping.

Having carefully hidden your illegal purchase in your auto you joined the policeman and watched the jumping. You marveled at the feats of horses that had won at Olympia; but you thrilled when the small daughter of a duke on a blood pony fought out the final of the musical chairs with the small daughter of a smallholder on a fat twenty-year-old shaggy pony that had been hauling the milk float that very morning.

You watched the carthorse parade, huge Shires and Suffolk Punches groomed to a shine and bedecked with jingling brasses. You joined the keepers and their friends in one corner of the field and lost a few shillings to them at clay pigeon shooting. And, as the huntsman paraded his hounds in the big ring, you wondered just why it was that this one remaining bit of rural pageantry was, in modern language, O.K. for color, sound, and music.

Such was Show Day on the Green. Every summer Saturday, too, you watched or played cricket there, and every winter Saturday you witnessed or shared in the football battles between say Sedgebury Wallop's Saints, and Marston Meysey's Wanderers. Perhaps in early spring the traveling circus tent was set up there for one thrilling afternoon performance. Perhaps in early childhood you picked violets along the hedgerow of Show Field. Young or old, your life as a villager revolved around those few acres of green grass.

When war came the activities on those acres changed, but the Green still provided the setting for village life. There the one-time cricketers drilled as Home Guards, or practised as the local Fire Brigade. There the village policeman demonstrated how to deal with incendiary bombs, and the

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"So, while the war lasts, the plough will rule the Village Green, but as soon as war finishes, we shall sow down those few important acres to grass once again, and in July hold our Flower Show, as our forefathers did since time out of mind."

Home Recreation After the War

By HOWARD G. RICHARDSON
Assistant Supervisor
Physical and Health Education
Virginia State Board of Education

PEOPLE ARE activity-conscious. They have perforce been held down during the long war period. When the war is over, their desire to do things and go places will be multiplied manyfold. Unless this desire is channeled and controlled, it will get out of balance and wreak havoc. A recreation program in the home, in the school, in the church, and in public areas financed by public funds should be organized and planned now if America is to stay on an even keel after the fighting is over.

Our society is based upon the structure of the home and the family, but little has been done consciously to promote home recreation. We need to develop a sound program for families together in the postwar world—starting with the physical setting. The homes of tomorrow must be more than places to eat and sleep. Slums, crowded city areas, and small, ill-planned city homes, disastrous alike to the play of childhood and the social enjoyment of adults, must be no part of the building plans of the future. Tomorrow's homes must have grounds for a garden of flowers or vegetables. We need to go back to the era when gardens were behind the house, not miles away in some vacant lot at the city's limits. City dwellers must be able to have and enjoy trees, flowers, and shrubs about their homes. Rural people must have homes with modern conveniences on good roads. They must have opportunities for more social living.

America needs to build morale for peace as she has built it for war. The family must learn to play together, as well as work together for a livelihood. The National Recreation Association's statement, "A family that plays together, stays together," is a vital necessity for thinking about the world of the future.

A home recreation program needs leadership from some member of the family. A desire to take part in some home activity will probably find echoes in the interests of other people in the neighborhood. Neighborhood groups can be organized along lines of common activity interests for children or fathers or mothers or whole families. But

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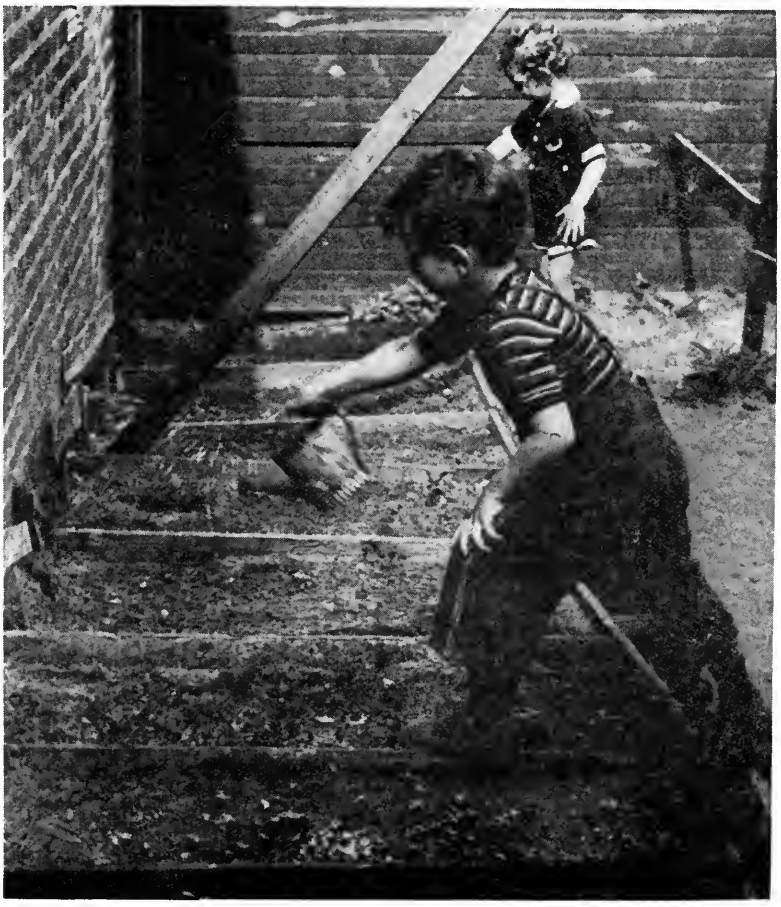

The home of tomorrow, it is to be hoped, will have plenty of ground for a garden. "We need to go back to the era when gardens were behind the house, not miles away in some vacant lot at the city's limits."

A Negro One-Act Play Tournament

By LOYD HATHAWAY
Recreation Department
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Many people feel that comparatively little has been heard of drama tournaments in the past few years only because transportation difficulties have been so great, and they believe that after the war there will be a greatly increased interest in these events. It has seemed worth while, therefore, to publish in some detail the tournament rules so carefully worked out by the Winston-Salem Recreation Department.

"LET'S PUT ON A PLAY!" Magic words—words that can be counted on to elicit a chorus of approval. Negroes, especially, have a love of drama born in them. They take to acting as naturally as a duck takes to water.

In 1935 the Winston-Salem Recreation Department organized a one-act play tournament for Negro citizens. Eleven clubs entered the meet. Each year since the number of entries has increased, until in 1944 twenty-four clubs had applied two weeks before the date for the close of the entries. Since there is a limit of twenty entries, the first twenty to hand in entry blanks and fees were accepted and the remaining clubs were placed on the waiting list to take the place of any groups that might have to withdraw from the tournament. The response of participants has been most gratifying. A capacity audience came each night for five successive nights of a tournament week to see the plays.

Leadership, Professional and Volunteer

The Recreation Department does not have a dramatic specialist. In October of each year, the Department secures the services of two dramatic leaders for one night each week. One of these leaders meets dramtic clubs at a recreation center, and the other, the chairman of the drama tournament committee, works from her home. All other dramatic direction is given either by volunteers, including several members of the committee, or by the neighborhood recreation directors. In sponsoring dramatic activities, the Recreation Department has paid only two leaders for one and one-half hours work per week, from the middle of October until April.

The leaders, paid and volunteer, assist individuals and groups in the various neighborhoods interested in dramatic activities. They have not limited their work to groups interested in the one-act play tournament. In some cases, they have helped to organize clubs and direct plays, but the major effort has been in helping groups select and order plays, choose casts, and solve the many other problems involved in organizing a club and producing a play. While some of the clubs meet at the recreation centers, the majority of them organize and have their regular meetings in homes and churches. The dramatic leaders keep in contact with the different groups and visit some rehearsals in order to stimulate interest and keep the clubs together, but a big part of the work is done by the members of the clubs themselves. The members of the drama tournament committee have played a large part in holding the clubs together from year to year by keeping in contact with the directors of the clubs over the telephone, at churches, and at various club meetings. The success of the tournament is due in a large part to the interest and year-round work of this committee.

Organization and Promotion

In the early fall, about the time the dramatic leaders start their work, the latest catalogs are secured from all leading play publishers and placed in recreation centers in three neighborhoods. In the fourth neighborhood, the chairman of the dramatic committee keeps the catalogs at her home. A mailing list of approximately 150 people interested in dramatics has been built up during the past ten years. In October of each year, a postal card is sent to the people on the mailing list, stating that the Recreation Department will sponsor the dramatic tournament, that catalogs will be available at the four centers, and that assistance will be given all groups by the dramatic leaders on a given night each week. An article is usually run in the Sunday edition of the local paper in December, emphasizing the fact that the tournament will be held.

The drama tournament committee usually meets

early in January to draw up rules and to set the date for the tournament. The rules are mimeographed and sent to the people on the mailing list, together with a letter bearing the names of the drama tournament committee. Each person on the list is invited to enter a club in the tournament. Several newspaper articles follow in Sunday editions of the paper. Usually additional postal cards are sent to each person on the mailing list, giving the closing date for entries and urging clubs to get in their entries early. As soon as a club enters, instructions are sent to the director. The instructions include among other things, an invitation to meet with the tournament committee on the night that entries close. This meeting gives the tournament committee an opportunity to answer questions for club directors, and to distribute posters to be placed in the various sections of the city to help advertise the tournament.

Each club entering the tournament is given as many tickets as it wants. The money from the sale of tickets is turned in to the treasurer of the tournament committee. After overhead expenses are deducted, the remainder of the money is returned to the clubs in proportion to the amount of money reported from the tickets sold. On Monday night following the close of the tournament, the committee meets with club directors, and all clubs that have completed their financial reports are given a check for the amount of money due them. Regardless of the amount of money that clubs have turned in to the treasurer of the tournament committee, they do not get a refund until every ticket has been accounted for.

The first year of the tournament all clubs that entered were grouped in one classification. Because of the difference in the age and abilities of the players, it was necessary the second year to group the clubs into three classifications. As a rule, clubs state in which class they belong and the tournament committee has had to re-classify very few clubs.

The tournament is held in an elementary school building, which the school board allows the recreation department to use for the actual cost of light, heat, and janitor service.

At the request of people entered in the tournament, an original play contest was added. From three to five original plays have been entered in the contest yearly. The original plays are judged and scored before the tournament. Since this is a playwright's contest, a different set of judges is used to judge the original plays. All original plays are required to be presented in their proper classification in the tournament.

Rules for Contestants

The rules which follow were written after securing material from the National Recreation Association and from several recreation departments that had sponsored such a tournament. Some of the rules may be identical with those used by recreation departments that sent us copies of their material. It has been necessary, of course, to make changes in our rules from year to year to suit the local situation.

Any Winston-Salem dramatic club whose cast is composed of members fifteen years of age or over may enter. All major parts of plays must be played by persons fifteen years of age and over.

Not more than twenty clubs may compete. Entries will be accepted in order of receipt of registration fee until the above quota has been filled.

No professional actor shall be employed in the presentation. By "professional" is meant a person who makes acting his vocation and earns his living in that manner.

No person may participate in more than one play during the tournament except as follows: A person may direct and play in the same production in any classification, or direct a play in one classification and play in a produc-

tion in another classification. No person may participate as a player in more than one production and no person may direct or coach more than one production.

The tournament will be divided into three classifications as follows: (1) school age—15-20 years; (2) community inexperienced; (3) community experienced. Clubs will decide in which group they are to be placed. The age and ability of the majority of the players in the cast will determine the group in which a club will be placed. The committee reserves the right to pass on all questions raised regarding the grouping of clubs.

A cup will be awarded to the play judged the best in each classification. A cup will also be awarded to the best original play. These cups, except the one for the best original play, are to be held by the winning group one year. They will be competed for again at the next tournament. The group winning a cup three times, not necessarily in succession, will become permanent owners. The person winning the best original play contest each year will become permanent owner of the cup.

Plays are limited to one set and must not be more than forty-five minutes or less than fifteen, and must have no less than three actors. No play presented in the tournament in the last three years may be used. One act of a long play, musical or dancing specialties, may not be entered.

Entries open on January 17th and close March 20th, or as soon as twenty clubs have paid their entry fees. The name of the play to be presented in the tournament, together with the names of those in cast, the synopsis of the play, and other information requested by the committee must be submitted by March 27th.

The committee shall meet with the directors of clubs at 7:30 on March 20th, the night that entries are closed. All directors are urged to be present for this meeting.

A copy of each play must be sent to the committee for approval by March 20th. No two organizations may enter the same play.

Three typed copies of all original plays must be submitted to the committee by March 27th. The judges for the playwrights' contest will read and score them before the tournament. The plays will then be presented during the tournament in their proper classification.

An entrance fee of one dollar per club shall be paid upon registration. This fee is not returnable in event of withdrawal. No member of the committee shall be allowed to stand responsible for entry fee, royalty, or any other expense for a club. Entries will not be accepted unless a club is sponsored by an adult.

The committee will furnish gray drapes as a background which will be used by all clubs.

The committee will furnish four pieces of furniture which will be a settee, two chairs, and table to match. Each club will furnish remainder of furniture, including such items as stairs, bookcase, and other specialties. One club will not be allowed to use the properties of another club without the special permission of the club owning the properties. Each club must furnish its own stage crew.

Foot and border, one spot, and two floodlights will be provided. All additional lighting equipment, including gelatine, must be furnished by production.

Tell what backings of doors and windows are to be lighted. Give this information on ground plan sheet. Your electrician will be responsible for operating lights for your production. The tournament committee will provide a lighting expert to work with each group.

Lighted table or stand lamp should have connections adjusted at least one day before rehearsal. Extension cords, plugs, etc., will be provided by committee.

Cigarettes, candles, lamps, or other open flames must be furnished by production.

Equipment for wind, rain, thunder, and lightning are available. Other off-stage noises such as auto horns, etc., must be furnished by the production.

The committee will furnish a telephone.

Each contesting group must be responsible for its own royalty, and receipt for payment to play agents must be presented to the committee twenty-four hours before the performance. Failure to compiy with this rule will be considered an automatic withdrawal from the contest.

All scenery, properties, and effects of each group must be at the Fourteenth Street School on the afternoon of the day of the production. Properties must be clearly labeled with the name of the organization, the name of the play, and the date of the appearance. If your set requires any special assembly or rigging, look after these details before date of rehearsal. Groups must remove properties from rooms on stage as soon as they have presented their play. Clubs will arrange for all transportation to and from Fourteenth Street School.

A storage room for scenery and properties during the week of the tournament will be available at Fourteenth Street School.

Each club will be allowed one hour before the tournament for a complete scenery, properties, and lighting rehearsal; time to be allotted by the tournament committee. A complete dress rehearsal of each group will be impossible. If it is impossible for your group to be present at rehearsal as per schedule, your rehearsal time will be forfeited.

Club members not actively participating in production will not be allowed backstage or in the dressing rooms during rehearsals or production. Those wishing to observe their group rehearsals must remain in the auditorium. All messages for the club must be given to the group stage manager who will pass them on.

The night on which each group will appear will be decided by the tournament committee. The order of the plays will not be changed after the tournament begins. Plays will be grouped to give a diversified program at each session.

The night of the production, all players must be dressed and ready to go on the stage five minutes after the tournament stage manager and assistants finish setting up the stage. Each club director and stage manager is requested to report to the tournament stage manager as soon as the preceding play ends.

Judges will be selected by the drama tournament committee. Each club should suggest the name of at least one person to be considered by the tournament committee as a judge for the tournament. It will be understood by

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Industrial Recreation Canadian Style

Courtesy United Aircraft Corporation

By BOB WARREN
Editor, *The Shotgun*

MEN AND WOMEN from all over Canada were pouring into Toronto. From city and country they came to manufacture the tools of war. Toronto's recreation facilities were crowded to the bursting point and still they came. The men seemed to manage somehow to fit into sports programs already set up. But the women presented another and more difficult problem. They had not been long in the city before they were clamoring for some place to relax body and mind after standing all day at machines. The need was obvious. So the officials of John Inglis Company, Limited, got to work to see what could be done for their women employees.

Fortunately for the success of their plan, the company decided to make haste slowly. They drew up a preliminary questionnaire in order to find out whether the girls would really be interested in a program of organized physical activities. The response, when the questionnaire was circulated through the plant, was immediate and enthusiastic.

The management set about the task of finding a place to house a recreation program. That, in the war-swollen city of Toronto, was no merry jest. At long last, however, a building of sorts was found. But much time and money needed to be spent before the place would be ready for the use to which it would be put. So another questionnaire was prepared. This one was calculated to discover whether enough people would actually become members of the proposed club, at a cost to them of fifteen cents per week, to justify the expense and the trouble of renovating. Within ten days 2,500 applications for membership had been received.

The reconstruction proceedings got under way quickly. But long before the building was ready an activities program was started in temporary quarters. Under the leadership of a capable recreation staff tap dancing and health and beauty exercises were begun, and a program was planned for a grand opening of the club.

That great day finally arrived. The members of the club had a chance to view their domain. The core of the club was a large gym marked for two basketball courts, four badminton courts, shuffleboard and volley ball. In addition, there was apparatus including a horse, springboard, box, and mats. A small stage at one end of the gym was equipped for dancing routines and dramatics. Across the front of the building ran two comfortable lounges furnished and decorated in shades of rose, turquoise, and honey. Glass partitions across the sides of the lounges that faced the gym allowed the girls to take their ease and watch their more active friends in game or drill. A well-equipped snack bar and soda fountain in the lower lounges served light lunches, sandwiches, and drinks cold or hot. A library, stocked to suit every kind of

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"Come, Read to Me Some Story"

By FRANCES DILL GISH
Head, School Department
Kern County Free Library
Bakersfield, California

IT IS EARLY Saturday morning (or maybe Wednesday afternoon after school) in a rural community in California. That small building is a branch library. Those children going so quietly through its door (they know by experience that readers don't like to be disturbed) are the members of a reading club. Their eager faces are proof enough that they expect to have a good time for the next hour or so. And well they may, because before they go home it is likely that they will have journeyed to far countries, made new friends, had strange adventures.

The branch libraries in rural California are small and trained librarians are scarce. But somebody must keep the buildings open, the store of books circulating; somebody must feed the hungry minds eager for new experiences and new ideas. Californians know that intelligent, though untrained, people can do a valuable job in helping youngsters to know good books. Rural Californians have learned from experience that reading clubs for children, held in branch libraries by lay people with an intelligent interest in cultivating a taste for good books in young people, really work even if there is no person with a degree in library science to supervise them.

The California experience can be put to good use by any community anywhere. Recreation leaders in community centers and playgrounds, program directors for club programs, parents thinking in terms of *all* the neighborhood children can follow the lead of California's rural libraries. The opportunities for children's pleasure and for the widening of their cultural horizons are unlimited.

The art of writing for children and young people has taken great strides forward in the last ten years or so. As, almost imperceptibly, the many adult worlds have become one world, the authors of children's books have moved out to the uttermost parts of the earth for their subject matter. No longer is the child dependent upon stories of another age for good reading. Any adult who has a taste for good books and is willing to take a little time to find out about the best books for children can foster good reading habits in youngsters.

A community reading club might start with a mother and her own child. The youngster's friends and other children in the neighborhood can be drawn into the circle, and lo! a club is born. The size of the club is not of great importance. Any number from two or three to a dozen or more constitutes a large enough group to find real pleasure.

There are, and should be, no hard and fast rules for working out a pattern for a reading club. The children will have their own interests. Their spontaneous suggestions will indicate the direction of the "program." Here, as everywhere, the leader's job is one of guidance, of helping the group to develop *their* ideas constructively. The primary adult responsibility is to see that the quality of the books chosen is high. The basic purpose of the club, the cultivation of an intelligent and discriminating taste in literature, must never be lost sight of.

Obviously each club will develop in a way peculiar to itself. The books selected and the manner of their presentation will depend upon the age and the interests of the children. Children of preschool age (the younger they are caught, the fewer bad reading habits to break) will be particularly interested in picture books, nursery rhymes, simple folktales like *The Three Bears* or *The Three Little Pigs.* They will like poetry, Christina Rossetti's *Sing-Song,* Robert Louis Stevenson's *Child's Garden of Verses,* A. A. Milne's *When We*

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"Librarians in children's and school libraries are alert to the needs of boys and girls in their communities during wartime, and are working in various ways to help parents make life as normal for them as possible. In Chicago, for example, children's librarians and Chicago leaders in the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers are working together on two courses in children's reading for mothers—one for younger children—the other for adolescents. Des Moines, Indianapolis, Rochester, Washington, and many other libraries are offering similar courses which, in some instances, include classes in storytelling for parents and suggestions for books to read aloud."—From *Education Today Clip Sheet,* The Quarrie Corp.

Films by Starlight

By LILLIAN SCHWERTZ
Supervisor of Playgrounds and Community Centers
Dallas, Texas

THE SUN SHINES hot in Texas when summer has come in. Night is welcome. When the dark comes down the municipal parks in Dallas are thronged with people seeking coolness from the trees and the grass before bedtime.

In the summer of 1944, the Army was anxious for as many people as possible to see its great documentary film, *Why We Fight*. The Dallas Park and Recreation Department conceived the idea that it would be fun for the park strollers if they could sit in the cool of the evening and watch a moving picture or two.

The Department therefore suggested that they show *Why We Fight* and other Army films in the parks. They owned a 16 mm. sound projector which they had bought a few months before, and motion pictures under the stars seemed a sound idea. There was only one difficulty. Their one projector just wouldn't "go 'round." Perhaps other projectors could be begged or borrowed somewhere. The Department members got to work with letters, newspaper articles, radio broadcasts to let Dallas know of their dilemma. Within a week eleven Dallas concerns had offered projectors to use and operators to run them. The Army, eager for their war films to reach the public, kept the

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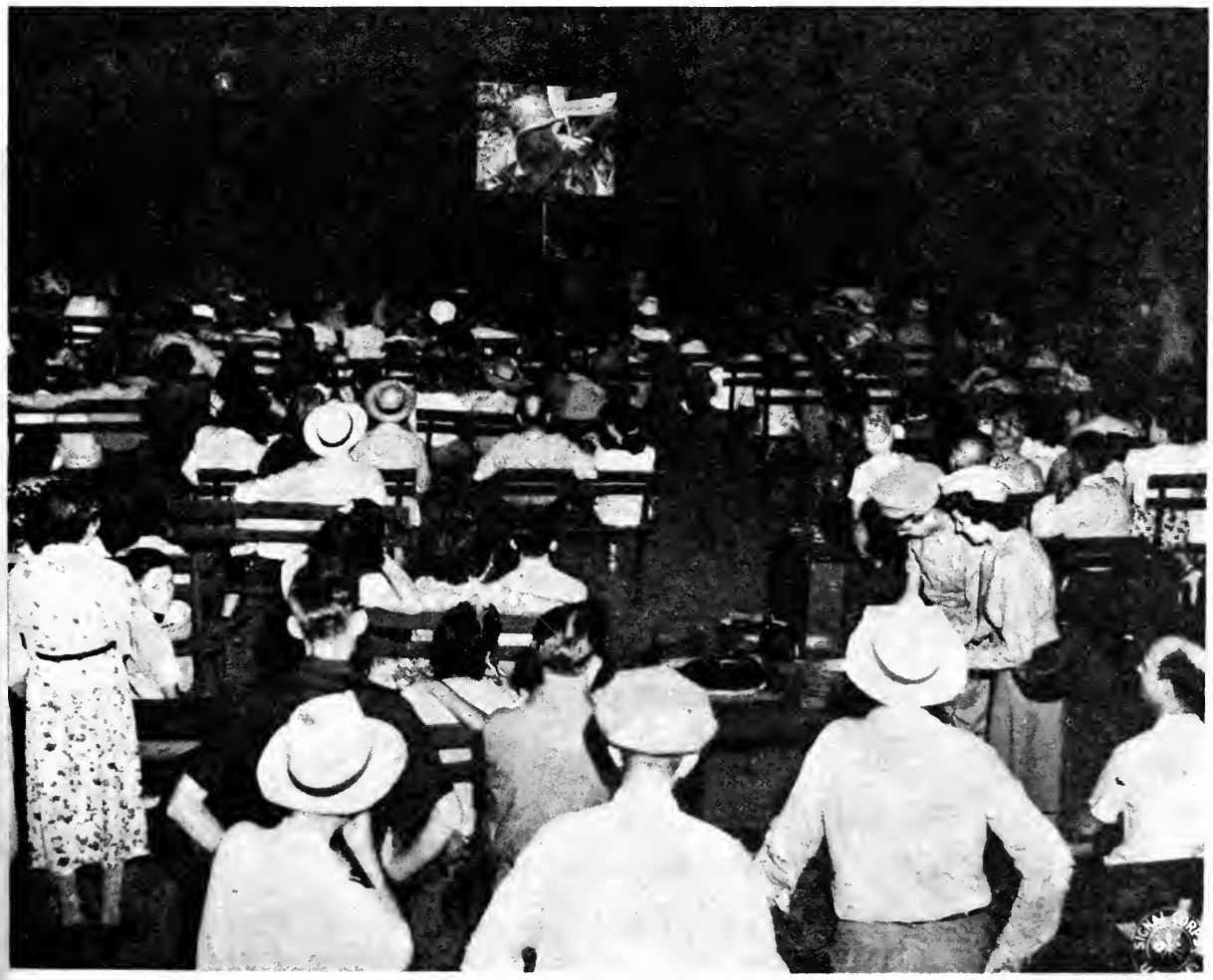
A typical scene at Exall Park, Dallas, showing the crowds attracted to the summertime, outdoor series of "Why We Fight" films presented in the parks by the Park and Recreation Department



Recreation Provides a Vocation

By WALTER H. LONG
President
Parks and Recreation Commission
Burbank, California

THE CITY OF BURBANK is generally recognized as one of the most important aviation centers in the country, and its Parks and Recreation Department is accomplishing a dual purpose by offering incentive to the potential aircraft engineers and, at the same time, providing a leisure-time activity of great popularity for the 6 to 16 year age group.

The first "6-16" model airplane contest held in 1943 was such an overwhelming success that it was decided to make it a yearly event, and the second annual contest, which closed on August 20, 1944, proved beyond a doubt that this is one contest which has all the attributes of an ideal recreation activity.

Beside the vast Lockheed plant there are almost a hundred companies within the corporate limits of Burbank which are in some way connected with the building of airplanes, and five of the major Air Lines have their terminals there. Confident that the industry would be interested in the welfare of our young people, the Parks and Recreation Commission sought their cooperation. The response was most gratifying, and generous checks and offers of help poured in until it seemed selfish to confine this opportunity to the young people of just one city. Accordingly it was opened to the entire San Fernando Valley. The result was that almost 400 signed entry blanks the first year.

The Recreation Division of the Department carries the full responsibility and does all the "leg work" for the contest but it receives invaluable help from many sources. Design engineers and model builders from the airplane companies meet with recreation leaders to draw up the specifications and make the rules so that sound experience

The aerodynamist of the Lockheed Aviation Corporation talks to an interested group of model airplane builders. Meetings of this kind are held in all the San Fernando Valley libraries.

will be gained by those participating. It was these men who ruled out flying models as being too expensive for the average boy to build. They wanted this to be a contest in which everyone could enter. Their opinion was, "We want perfection of workmanship and design. That is what is needed in the industry. A flying model cannot conform to scale and a scale model cannot fly."

Libraries in the several Valley towns handle the entry blanks, printed in duplicate and bound in books of 25. When each entry is made, the youngster receives the original, a printed sheet telling all the rules and regulations, and a membership button. The children's librarians vie with each other in developing interest and actual participation, even providing transportation for the finished models to the show.

Burbank schools include the contest as a part of their summer playground activity, just as the parks do, and during the contest shop teachers turn model instructors. Some of the finest work is turned out under their supervision. In the Senior class, 11 to 16 years, all models must be solid and conform to the 72nd scale of the Army and Navy, but the Juniors, from 6 to 11, may build any type, the only restriction being a 36-inch wing spread. Templates in the schools help contestants to conform to the rules, as do many pictures and charts showing detail and finish, which count so heavily with the judges. Awards are generously provided by the collaborating companies, special awards and certificates of merit signed by the Air Line captains are given those whose models just miss winning the awards for excellence in workmanship.

The contest would be of little value unless the boys—yes, and a few girls—knew of it. The wholehearted cooperation of the newspapers takes care of this. The public relations department writes releases on the progress of the contest, including names of those doing outstanding work and any special information which would be of interest to the public or the model builders. Pictures of the contestants and their partly finished models, the awards or any other "art" are welcomed by the press and the company papers of the participating firms, who even send their photographers to take the pictures.

Displays of the awards are arranged in downtown store windows in each city, with the press releases properly keyed to give "push" to the exhibit. At the same time the libraries make special displays of material and books on model building to help build up interest.

About midway through the contest, everyone who has signed an entry blank is invited by postal card to attend a meeting at which engineers from the companies act as technical advisors to help contestants with their problems. These busy men who are at the very top of aviation engineering, give a full evening of their time to help these boys who will soon be their successors. The youngsters bring the models upon which they are working to be criticised by experts in design, structure and aerodynamics. Pilots from the Air Lines take part in these meetings, too, telling firsthand experiences of flying the transport planes of the world. A question and answer session concludes each meeting and often the questions "stump the experts."

This year's contest ran from May 15 to August 20, and all models had to be brought to the Recreation Center on August 17th to be judged and displayed for the two-day show, to which the entire Valley was invited without charge. The small planes were separated into divisions and classes and arranged on long tables in the spacious room, so that all could gaze to their heart's content.

An engineer from each company served on the judging committee, and these men did such an expert job that it took them five hours to complete the list of winners. More than once precision gauges were necessary to measure the accuracy of the model.

The really big moment arrived on Saturday night when the curtains opened on the flag-draped stage filled with Army and Navy fliers just returned from the world combat zones; the master of ceremonies, one of the great names in aviation; uniformed captains of the Air Lines, and the community band playing the national anthem. It was the thrill of a lifetime for both the large audience and the winners as each name was called, and the young men stepped proudly forward to receive their awards from the hands of these men who are now making aviation history.

The remarkable improvement in workmanship between the first and second contest was both amazing and gratifying to all those who had any part in them, and an inspiration to continue this vacation activity which not only serves to absorb leisure time but lays the firm foundation of a future vocation for the youthful contestants. Plans for the "6-16" Model Airplane Contest for 1945 are already underway. It seems probable that the entry list will exceed 1,000 boys and girls.

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

AQUARIA. "Guide to Higher Aquarium Animals," by Edward T. Boardman. Cranbrook. 107 pp., illus. $2.00.

Arbor Day and Bird Day. University of the State of New York (Albany), Bulletin to the Schools, 30 (7), March 1944, pp. 221-268, illus.

Bears. "Meet Mr. Grizzly," by Montague Stevens. University of New Mexico Press. 281 pp. $3.50. Reminiscences of an old-time hunter.

Birds. "The Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Birds," by Leon Augustus Hausman. Halcyon House. 541 pp., illus. $1.98. Alphabetical sequence of 1422 North American birds.

Climate. "Climate and the Energy of Nations," by S. F. Markham. Oxford. 236 pp., illus. $3.50.

"Ditmars, Raymond L.: His Exciting Career with Reptiles, Animals, and Insects," by L. N. Wood. Messner. 272 pp., illus. $2.50.

Farming. "Work Leaders for Groups of Nonfarm Youth Employed in Agriculture," prepared in consultation with the War Food Administration and the U. S. Office of Education. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 10 pp. 5 cents. Single copies free from the Children's Bureau.

Food for Birds. Bird lovers, unable to get customary winter foods for neighborhood wild birds, may substitute oatmeal, hominy, grits, peanut butter, nuts, fruits, and dry breadcrumbs.

Forest Fires. "In a moment the ashes are made, but a forest is a long time growing."—*Seneca.*

Forest Quiz and Tracking Down America's Forest Fire Bugs. Important questions and answers about the causes and results of forest fires. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forestry Service, Washington 25, D. C.

Forests. "Some Plain Facts About the Forests," Department of Agriculture. Miscellaneous Publication number 543. 22 pp., illus. 10 cents. Single copies free.

Gardening. Soilless gardening at the AAF Regional Hospital, Coral Gables, Florida, is giving convalescent men a healthful outdoor activity, training in a postwar skill, and a chance to produce choice vegetables.

Great Britain's Natural Resources. Write to Mr. H. M. Arbuthnot, British Information Service, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, for an attractive and useful map.

Hiking Trails in New England. Copies free from W. R. Hamlin, 60 Fearing Street, Amherst, Massachusetts.

Maine. "Guide to the Appalachian Trail in Maine," Appalachian Trail Conference, 808 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. $2.50.

Michigan Conservation Commission proposes that the state acquire 100,000 acres for recreational purposes. It will provide for such outdoor sports as fishing, hunting, hiking, canoeing, picnicking, and camping.

Nature Therapy. The Dayton Art Institute provided a miniature zoo for convalescing patients at Patterson Field Station Hospital, Ohio. An afternoon of fun for the patients was arranged by the Miami Valley, Ohio, Hospital Council of the Red Cross.

Nature Trails, St. Louis. Alfred H. Wyman, executive director, Park and Playground Association has issued an interesting report on the establishment and maintenance of nature trails, museums, and nature workshops in the St. Louis public areas. His maps of the training section of the national trails at Sherwood Forest Camp is rich with suggestions.

Plants, House. "Enjoy Your House Plants," by Dorothy H. Jenkins, and Helen Van Pelt Wilson. Barrows, 238 pp., illus. $2.50.

"To appreciate to the full any aspect of the countryside, we must have watched that particular landscape through all its varied phases. The richness of the green thigh-deep bracken on a hillside in summer is felt more strongly by those who have trodden the tattered red fern in winter. The sprightliness of the crimson larch flowers in spring is more thrilling to those who have seen the same branches sprayed with snow. The swirl of the November flood is heard with greater intensity by those who have listened to the soft burblings of summer."—*Robert Gibbings* in *Coming Down the Wye.*

WORLD AT PLAY

Craft Institute in Buffalo

Courtesy Buffalo Museum of Science

THERE were more than one hundred registrations representing thirty-seven active organizations in western New York for the three day institute in crafts held in the Buffalo Museum of Science. The purpose of the institute was to arouse interest in the development of craft skills. (The accompanying illustration shows handmade looms made from ice cream sticks or tongue depressors on which many members of the craft institute learned how to weave belts.)

Institute exhibits of craft work were arranged which continued on display in the Museum after the institute had closed. In the exhibit were examples of weaving, metal and leather work, pottery, and miscellaneous items from local organizations in Buffalo.

As a follow-up to the institute, Ellsworth Jaeger, curator of education of the Museum, announced a number of classes for adults and children. For the children there was Nature in Art, which included the making of marionettes, birdhouses, plastic crafts, and other articles. The children's Print and Palette Club offers a program of print making, including stencil printing of textiles. The Young Explorers also have a program of crafts related to nature and Indian lore. For adults there are classes in weaving, pottery, leather craft, and interior decoration.

Soap Sculpture Contest

EACH year for the past twenty years, the National Soap Sculpture Committee has conducted competitions for small sculptures in white soap. The 1945 contest is now open. Awards will be given in three classes, advanced amateur, senior, and junior; and there will be special prizes for group entries and for reproductions. The contest will close May 15, 1945. Entry blanks and information about the contest will be sent on request by the National Soap Sculpture Committee, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. A *Soap Sculpture Manual* is available from the same source to teachers and other group leaders. This pamphlet contains many suggestions for carving in soap.

Children's Theater in Milwaukee

THE Milwaukee Public Schools Department of Municipal Recreation has announced its eleventh season of Children's Theater with a dodger decorated by a beckoning figure of the Scarecrow of Oz. The program will include five performances to be held on Saturdays in November, December, January, and February. The Clare Tree Major Players will give *Peter Pan* and *The Prince's Secret*, the Civic Light Opera Company, *Babes in Toyland*. The season will close with the new Edwin Strawbridge ballet *Johnny Appleseed*. A season ticket for the four plays costs $1.20 (tax included). Single tickets are 40 cents with tax.

Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau

THE film service of the National Council of Y.M.C.A.'s will supply films free or for a small rental to any organization which wishes to exhibit them. The films, both silent and sound

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16 mm., include educational subjects, feature pictures, comedies, and newsreels. There are over fifty films on sports and athletics. A catalogue of films available from the Bureau, together with their cost and instructions for ordering, will be sent on request by the Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

Violins and Mosquitoes in the Pacific—"Every Monday night we have a 'concert under the stars.' It's not much; in fact, the mosquitoes offer excellent competition to the recordings. But the music is beautiful. . . . This past Monday they had numerous selections from the opera, 'Carmen,' and a number of pieces by Rachmaninoff. I relaxed in the luxury of my pipe and memories. Yes, for a few brief moments I was home." —From a letter from the southwest Pacific. (The writer is a Liberator pilot stationed in the southwest Pacific.)

Silver Anniversary—Congratulations are in order! In October, the Federal Community Club of Federalsburg, Maryland, celebrated its silver anniversary. The program for the occasion included a review of the club's work during the quarter-century of its life, a playlet entitled "Martha Joins the WACs," and an original pageant "The Silvery Gleam" which pictured the main activities of the club during the past twenty-five years.

Birthday, United Nations Service Center—The Capitol Park Hotel in Washington, D. C., had a birthday in October. It was only a first birthday because just a year ago the hotel was converted into the United Nations Service Center. Here a serviceman or woman can get a night's sleep or a catnap, treatment for "soldier's feet," clothes laundered in thirty minutes, or the baby "parked" for the day. On the afternoon of Saturday, October 28th, the millionth serviceman entered the Center and, as a sort of birthday-present-in-reverse, received a War Bond.

The Light Fantastic—1944's near-record heat doesn't seem to have bothered Terpsichore's New York followers. Dance festivals were held this year in all five boroughs. At Prospect Park, Brooklyn (the oldest of the festivals) 1,000 participants performed before an audience of 10,000. In preparation for this festival the dance classes and clubs which are a regular part of the recreation program were expanded to many times their usual size in order to accommodate the youngsters to whom the Brooklyn Dance Festival has become a tradition.

The dance programs were part of the summer recreational activities of the Department of Parks. For those less actively inclined the Department had other activities. More than a hundred concerts were given during the summer. Their programs ranged from Brahms to boogie-woogie in subject interest and were heard by over 400,000 people. Seven music groups on both the professional and amateur levels provided the music.

A Dream City—"At this very moment certain of our organizations are planning for another city on a larger scale, which may be located on a beautiful water front near one of our industrial operations. This conception comes from the mind and heart of one of our young executives who is operating one of our shipyards. He calls it his dream city. In it there will be room for light and air, these basic essentials to healthy, happy living.

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The broad streets will be lined with trees and flowers, nor will they be marred by any overhead electric wiring. From the parks and playgrounds will come the laughter of happy children. On athletic fields men and women who have worked all day on what are often the monotonous routines of technical production will find recreation in the games which all Americans love to play."—*Henry J. Kaiser* in an address delivered before the National Conference on Postwar Housing, March 1944.

The Most Beautiful Sight—"This stinking life has done one good thing for me," said the hard-boiled sergeant on the Italian front. "I've learned to get a kick outa every single minute I'm alive . . . and it's funny the way you learn how good everything is. Just before we moved up last week we had to sweat out a long wait. Know what I did? For a solid hour I laid there in the grass and looked at a little blue flower. Don't know what kind it was, but I could tell you all about it. It was the prettiest flower I've ever seen, and I guess I enjoyed that hour more than any I ever spent in my life."—From N. Y. *Herald Tribune*.

On Demand Only—A series of teen-age dances is being sponsored for the first and third Fridays of each month by a committee of Long Beach, California, citizens representing groups interested in high school and college boys and girls. An interested member of the community is underwriting the cost of well-known dance bands. Any surplus of receipts from any dance goes into a fund for future dances. The sponsoring group will publicize the dances, but they will not "high pressure" the young people into coming. The future of the dance program belongs to the group for which the dances were started, and depends entirely upon their attendance in numbers large enough to justify the effort. The Long Beach Civic Dance Committee is promoting the plan. The Recreation Commission is represented on the committee and is responsible for the management of the dances.

Recreation Library Service — The Public Recreation Board of Grand Rapids, Michigan, maintains a lending library of literature on recreation which is proving an invaluable aid for party planners, craftsmen, and other leisure-time enthusiasts.

(Continued on page 494)

The Society of Recreation Workers of America

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS and geographical representatives of the Society of Recreation Workers of America have been elected for the year 1944-45:

OFFICERS

President:
MILO F. CHRISTIANSEN, Washington, D. C.
First Vice-President:
MISS JESSIE SCHOFIELD, Provo, Utah
Second Vice-President:
ARTHUR E. GENTER, Akron, Ohio
Secretary:
GEORGE T. SARGISSON, Chester, Pa.
Treasurer:
KARL B. RAYMOND, Minneapolis, Minn.
Members-at-Large:
CHASE HAMMOND, Waterloo, Iowa
K. MARK COWEN, Birmingham, Ala.
GEORGE HJELTE, Los Angeles, Calif.
PHILIP LEBOUTILLIER, Irvington, N. J.
JAMES PRYCE, Eaton's Industrial Workers Association, Toronto, Canada

GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATIVES

New England:
DUNCAN RUSSELL, Boston, Mass.
CHARLES H. ARNOLD, Waltham, Mass.
Mid-Atlantic:
WILLIAM M. LEONARD, Schenectady, N. Y.
PETER J. MAYERS, New Rochelle, N. Y.
East Canada:
West Canada:
East Central:
L. P. MOSER, Kalamazoo, Mich.
JULIUS KEMENY, Cleveland, Ohio
South Eastern:
K. MARK COWEN, Birmingham, Ala.
CORDELIA B. HUNT, Tampa, Fla.
Mid-Western:
ERNEST W. JOHNSON, St. Paul, Minn.
KATHERINE E. KRIEG, Des Moines, Iowa
South Western:
CORINNE FONDÉ, Houston, Texas
Western:
HOWARD C. BERESFORD, Denver, Colo.
MALCOLM LESEUR, Casper, Wyoming
Pacific:
MARION SPARROW, North Hollywood, Calif.
DUANE GEORGE, Long Beach, Calif.

Allan Krim of the Newark, N. J., Recreation Department, has been elected chairman of the Committee on Records of the Society of Recreation Workers of America. Mr. Krim wishes that any person having any of the past records of the Society would send them addressed to him to the office of the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City. Mr. Krim feels it is important that all the Society's records be assembled and filed at this time.

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Why are they so successful in war? Because in peace... when they played baseball or football or basketball or softball... they were learning how to coordinate their efforts with their team-mates' for victory.

In the post-war period—and for all time—America is going to need teamwork in solving economic, social, and political problems... in keeping the peace when won. Again, our playgrounds and athletic fields will build this teamwork to provide the spark to keep America's bright torch shining.

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World at Play

(Continued from page 492)

A Report from Honolulu—The Civilian Recreation Committee of Honolulu, Hawaii, has earned over $300,000 through presentations of shows and entertainments and has erected an $18,000 recreation center on one of the playgrounds, entertaining more than one million people, 60 per cent of whom were servicemen and women. Honolulu's Recreation Commission has taken the lead in recommendations for future playgrounds for the "Master Plan" and postwar plans. Land acquisition and improvement of sixteen proposed areas alone comes to $1,600,000.

Recreation for Negroes in the Deep South—From Georgia and Mississippi come stories of interracial action to secure recreational facilities for Negroes. Community houses were built and playgrounds opened. The centers are used to capacity by men and women from the cradle to the grave. The improvement in the neighborhoods where the centers are located has been noted with great satisfaction by the whole community.

Feet That Dance and Hearts That Sing

(Continued from page 459)

education departments. The Parks and Playgrounds Association ended its summer work with a folk festival in late August. For almost ten years the Cultural Olympics of the University of Pennsylvania has had an annual folk festival. The next one will be held in February, 1945. Stress will be placed on similarities rather than differences in the folk songs, music, and dances of the varied groups in the city.

"Food Fights for Freedom"

(Continued from page 465)

the park took on a real fair atmosphere. As a result, those attending swung into the fun for a day and forgot for the moment about the lack of gas for vacations away from home, and other necessary wartime restrictions, and enjoyed the fun and entertainment which was an outgrowth of their own activities, held in their own neighborhood.

Two interesting programs highlighted the day's activities. The first was held during the lunch hour in the park area of the playground. It featured a marionette show from one of the playgrounds, and a professional ventriloquist. Both of these features delighted young and old alike. Clowns were in the crowd causing laughter with their usual antics, and the master of ceremonies added to the program with clever jokes and good introductions.

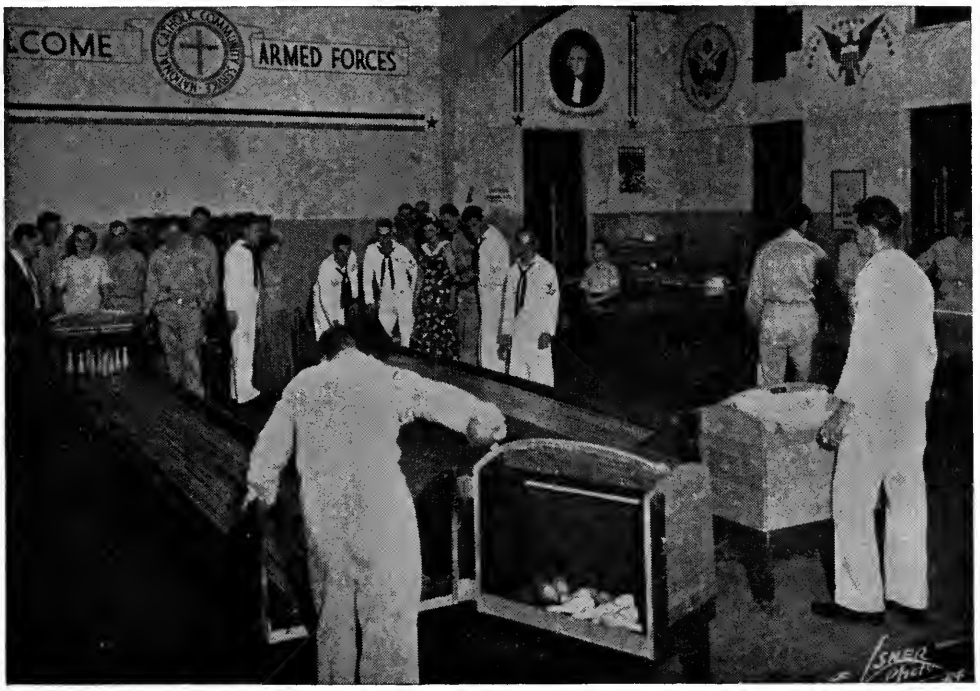
The second program, held in the playground area where the fair ground was established, was a sort of "main show" event. The president of the Berkeley Lions Club acted as master of ceremonies and the program numbers were as follows:

1. Introduction of dignitaries
2. Selections on accordion
3. Folk dance numbers by the Garfield Folk Dance Group
4. "The Lone Stranger Rides Again"—Jefferson playground
5. Tumbling Tumblers — James Kenney playground
6. Jolly Tappers — Washington playground
7. Magic Show—New Magic from Old Mexico

Both programs were well attended and received applause and encores from their appreciative onlookers.

Financing the Fair

The fair was not planned as a money-making proposition, but because of the many incidental expenses, small charges of ten cents and twenty cents were set as admission fees. All participants, exhibitors, concession and food sale helpers, and committee members who were aiding in any way with the fair were admitted free. Boys and girls who were already Junior Commandos and helping with the salvage drives, also under the auspices of the Recreation Department, or boys and girls who wanted to gather some salvage for the ticket, were admitted free to the fair by presenting twenty pounds of paper, ten clothes hangers or six coffee



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jars. (All these had been used in previous drives of the Junior Commandos in Berkeley.) The clothes hangers thus collected were turned over to the hospital unit of the local Red Cross; the coffee jars were given to the Mobilized Women's organization; and the waste paper was donated to another service organization.

In an effort to provide still more fun and frolic for the children, the local Berkeley paper asked for the privilege of paying the admission price of all the boys and girls who were to be charged admissions. Their request was gladly granted, and the record was obtained by the boys and girls signing up at the entrance gates. More than six hundred children entered the fair through this method.

The entire project which was sponsored by the Berkeley Lions Club, required much organization, and committees of various types and kinds were organized early, each with a special job and specific duties which were carried out on a well-planned time schedule. It was a project that required a great deal of planning and work, and without the help and assistance of many committee members the undertaking would have been most impossible.

If the need is still here another year, and if the war still goes on by that time, there will be another fair. If peace has come by that time, and children as well as the adult population can derive more enjoyment from some other type of recreation program by next summer, the climaxing event will take on a somewhat different form—one designed to meet the recreational needs of the people of Berkeley.

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Bermuda—by Motor

(Continued from page 466)

groupers nibble at the bait held on hookless lines by the visitors. The hungry fish grab the tempting morsel and hang on until pulled up. Sometimes they let loose in mid-air, much to the entertainment of the sailors. To add to the general excitement, several baby sharks are swishing around in the pool, making desperate bids to outdo the other fish in getting at "GI Joe's" bait.

A trip around Harrington Sound brings our party to the terrace of the Castle Harbour Hotel. From here they can look out on miles of breathtaking scenery. Later on, the group travels to that marvel of engineering, the Bermuda base of the U. S. Army Air Corps. Recreational engineering, incidentally, was very much in evidence when this base was laid out. Ample athletic fields and recreational buildings were provided for enlisted men and officers.

Swinging back to Prospero's and Leamington Caves, the party goes through these natural caverns. Similar to our Crystal Caverns in Virginia (stalagtites and stalagmites) the interest of the caves is heightened by the vivid tales of the place told by the caretakers, characters whose fame will "be further spread abroad" by their sailor audiences.

Other points of interest visited include the Bermuda Cathedral, Parliament Building, Gibbs Hill Lighthouse, Bermuda Library and Gardens, Admiralty House, Spanish Point, the famed Lili Perfume factory, where Bermuda lilies are converted into the "eau de soiree" of milady's choice.

And so—back to Hamilton and the liberty boats in Hamilton harbor. It's a tired group of sailors who go ship-ward—tired but well-versed in "Bermudalore." And it's a tired but satisfied Navy Recreation Department that "secures" the trucks as the USO director closes his office for another night. The new type of Bermuda tourist likes the island. He likes it so well that he promises to come back in peacetime "with the wife and kids." Then, with more time to spend, he can lead the family in leisure through this island for he will be an "authority" on its points of interest.

At the New York City Center

(Continued from page 473)

convenient hour to the audiences. "Out of the many letters I have received about these events," said the conductor, "not one has expressed a complaint against the hour. They tell me that although they may have to hurry—in some cases from lower Brooklyn, the upper Bronx, and even from New Jersey and Philadelphia—their evenings are still left free, and they relax completely from their tiredness in enjoyment of the music.

"From these and the Monday evening concerts, I have felt a wave of friendliness from the audience which I have never experienced before. There is an atmosphere of happiness and informality which seems to me unique. These music lovers come solely for the music; they express their enthusiasm by their spontaneous applause—even between movements of symphonies—and they don't rush away immediately afterwards. I believe that the reason for this is that they understand we are trying to build an institution devoted to culture, without any self-seeking, and with the object of making music for everyone, with no exception. This spirit will increase as we go on. It will take time to reach our ideal, the conception is so great, but every concert is a step forward.

Towards Democratic Ideal

"One of our aims is gradually to bring together a group of artists with ideas, to work out plans together and act on them. New York has become the greatest metropolis in the world, and we have here artists from everywhere. We shall welcome art from every part of the world and from every time, with due regard for native expression but without chauvinism, and for contemporary works without neglecting the spirit of the universality of art.

"The real meaning of this war is another great step towards the democratic ideal. The period of Washington, Jefferson, Paine, and Hamilton was an expression of simple, brotherly democratic feeling between people later reflected in every kind of art. Quite soon we shall feel that again. Art used to be for the privileged few—in the times of the Medicis, the 18th century in France and recently in New York, for example—but now is coming an entirely different conception. Art will be for every man, rich or poor, with no racial or other barriers. We are looking forward to that day at City Center."

Village Green

(Continued from page 478)

local matrons practiced stretcher bearing. All that was in keeping with ancient custom; but in October 1941 came a great blow that semed to strike at the heart of village life. Orders came to plough the green and sow it with wheat. Well, we obeyed orders—but these lines by my daughter Pamela Street, paint the picture all too clearly:

There's a group of aged elm trees by the narrow winding lane.
That runs beside Ten Acre to the farm;
And like weather-beaten sentries in the sun and in the rain
They have kept it down the ages free from harm.

They have watched it through each season, they have shared its every joy,
They nodded down when Jill was taught to ride;
And they rustled when the Vicar judged the finest baby boy,
Whilst old Jarrock's red rosette they shared with pride.

Then they shook a very little when Old Harry broke the fence,
And turned a little yellow at his fall;
But it's only very recently they've waited in suspense—
And have sighed in one sad chorus over all.

For Ten Acre is a happy field, the elms have seen its fun,
When shows were held and young things born and bred;
So it's just a little hard to think in nineteen forty-one
We are ploughing, sowing, rolling it instead.

America, too, has its village greens. Last June the green at Millburn, New Jersey, was the scene of a village festival sponsored by the Art Center. The day's program, which lasted from 10:30 A. M. to 10:30 P. M., included exhibitions of art of servicemen abroad; arts and crafts, creations of school children; wood carving, and ceramics; a demonstration of portrait painting with child artists at work; finger painting; a Maypole dance and folk dances; and scenes of the Gay Nineties. In the evening came a concert and a country square dance.

There is, too, the old village green of Thetford Hill, Vermont, flanked at one end by the more than a century and a quarter old church and surrounded by gracious old houses. Here are held gatherings of all kinds—most important of all the annual village fair in August with its booths where articles of all kinds are sold, its Punch and Judy show, supper on the green and, at the end of the day, the beautiful candlelight service in the church.

Last year came an innovation — a community mowing! Wartime conditions had made it impossible to secure labor for cutting the grass on the

(Continued on page 499)

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A Suitable Stable for Hobby Horses

(Continued from page 467)

for them. Groups of interested spectators fingered string for future candlewick spreads, watched the potter's wheel turning merrily to shape the clay, saw the woodworking shop being set up. These people would not long be spectators. Because of community cooperation in the building of this project the costs of participating actively were so low—nothing more than what it took to buy the materials—that every one could be a doer of the work and not a watcher only.

On that opening night there was a new excitement in the autumn air at Guelph. This was a beginning. Other, bigger plans were being forged already. New shops will be added to those already set up. The walls of the market will be decorated with a mural showing the history of the town and painted by the town's own citizens. There will soon be soldiers coming back from overseas, men who have, in convalescent hospitals, learned to value handcrafts. They will want and need the therapy of creating for the fun of it and for the joy of making things for beauty and for use. Guelph is looking more happily to the future because an old butter market has had its façade lifted to become a stable for many hobby horses.—From Ontario Parks Association Bulletin, Mid-October, 1944.

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"Come, Read to Me Some Story"

(Continued from page 484)

Were Very Young and *Now We Are Six*. They may want to dramatize the stories they have heard. The leader may find that all the youngsters want to be the smart little pig who survives, but since this is obviously impossible there will, no doubt, be a couple of volunteers prepared to sacrifice themselves to the wolf in the cause of drama. Let the youngsters work out their own improvisations. The little ones won't need many suggestions!

Children in the six to ten age group will like folk stories and fairy tales and tales of mythology; Howard Pyle and Rudyard Kipling and Hans Christian Andersen. They will be interested in Louisa May Alcott and in the admirable pioneering books written in recent years by Laura Wilder. They will want books of the times in which they live, like Kitty Barne's *Three and a Pigeon* and Gregor Felsen's *Struggle is Our Brother* and books of fantasy and far places, *Gift of the Forest* by Eloise Lownsbery and H. Lal Singh and *Mocha the Djuka* by Frances F. Neilson.

Older children will want variety. They will be eager for biography, books of science and travel, good fiction. They may want to read independently as well as in a group and, from time to time, report to the rest on what they have been doing by themselves. A reading scrapbook, kept as a record of his own reading by each club member, and a club scrapbook chronicling group activities, are stimulating and interesting as a record and a reference.

Now, where are the books (and the knowledge that will insure the best choice of books) coming from? In communities where there is a trained children's librarian the answer is easy. She will help with the selection and provide the books—or she will know where any books not on her shelves may be obtained. Her training will be an ever-ready resource for the lay leader. But what of communities where there is no children's librarian—indeed no library of any kind? For them there is the state library. It will be in the state capital and will probably have a librarian trained to work with children. At any rate someone in the organization will suggest the best books for children both curent and classic. Arrangements can probably be made for borrowing these books from the state library at no cost or for the cost of mailing only.

The mechanics of forming a reading club in a neighborhood home, in an agency's clubroom, or in a recreation center are not difficult. The rewards in happiness and knowledge for the present and for the future are greater than can be guessed, much less set forth in numbered pages. The proof of this pudding can only be in the eating, but the experience of other people says it is a palatable dish.

Home Recreation After the War

(Continued from page 479)

it must be remembered that participation is voluntary. If people are forced or overpersuaded to do something against their inclination they lose interest, and the activity ceases to be recreational. Informal or unorganized participation makes a home recreation program successful.

To most children under eight years old, the backyard is the preferred playground. It will probably be a better playground if it is made more interesting by adult care. Many small children play well alone without an adult to organize their activities, but they will welcome adult guidance and suggestions. This gives the mothers in a neighborhood a wonderful opportunity. They might well select a backyard suitable for a play lot and arrange a schedule among themselves for supervising children in the play area. The fathers who are interested in shopwork could make play equipment for the area. The same kind of cooperation could be used to develop neighborhood recreation for older children and for adults.

Home recreation can work. It can provide inexpensive, wholesome fun for the whole family.

Village Green

(Continued from page 497)

green. So an invitation was issued, "Come to the community mowing, bring your supper and a mowing machine!" The enthusiastic response resulted in the cutting of the grass not only on the green but on the lawns of the surrounding houses and of the church.

And there was plenty of fun with the work!

The Part of the Y.W.C.A. in Community Planning

(Continued from page 477)

fulfilling its own clearly defined function with skill and enthusiasm and by helping to establish effective and mutually helpful relations among all the agencies for the benefit of the entire community.

A Decalogue for Parents

(Continued from page 472)

in the City Council Chamber of the City Hall on February 11, 1944, when about 500 delegates representing schools in Chicago and Cook County were present.

It is suggested that anyone desiring a copy communicate with Mr. E. J. Lewinski, Executive Secretary of the Conference, 326 West Madison Street, Chicago 6, Ill.

A Christmas Message

(Continued from page 460)

that had troubled me . . . not the greatness of the thing that we do, not the value of the gift we make, but only that we give our best! That brings a blessing upon the small things which even you and I can do at this Christmas time. This is our inspiration for the coming year.

A Negro One-Act Play Tournament

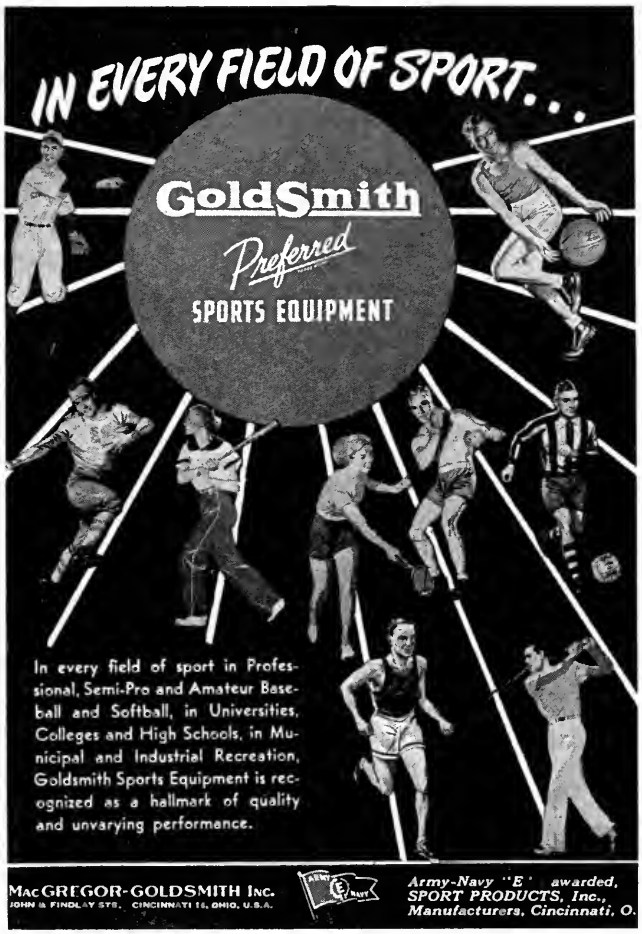
(Continued from page 482)

the committee that any club entering the tournament agrees to accept the decision of the judges as final.

The plays will be judged as follows: presentation—meaning "how well the idea of the play is gotten over"—50 per cent; acting—25 per cent; setting—15 per cent; selection of play—10 per cent. One point will be deducted for each minute that a play runs over the time limit of forty-five minutes.

Each judge will grade each play independently, handing in his or her gradings in a sealed envelope at the conclusion of each evening's plays. Places won by each club will be announced. Points won by each club will be given to directors upon request.

The original plays will be judged as follows: PLOT: (a) Is the plot unified? (b) Are there "gaps" in the action? (c) Are the entrances well prepared for?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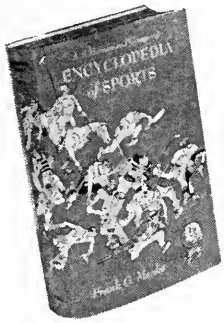

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CHARACTERIZATION: (a) Are the characters clearly drawn? (b) Does the dialogue flow naturally? (c) Is the language authentic? ATMOSPHERE: (a) Does the playwright sustain the mood? (b) Do all parts of the play contribute to the mood? In rendering a decision, the judges should keep in mind that this is a playwright's contest. The decision shall be rendered in terms of place for each play and shall be determined by majority vote for each place.

Single admission, 20 cents; season tickets, 50 cents. No reserved seats. Each group will be given as many tickets as they want, but they will be requested to sell a minimum of twenty-five tickets. The money from the sale of these tickets shall be turned in to the treasurer of the tournament committee. The overhead expenses of the tournament such as drapes, tickets, posters, trophies, lights, heat, janitor service, federal tax, etc., will be paid from these receipts. Whatever is made over and above expenses shall go to the group in proportion to the amount of money received from the tickets sold by that group. The committee will meet with directors and business managers of clubs on Monday night following the close of the tournament. At this meeting, the committee will refund clubs the amount of money due them after deducting all overhead expenses, including the federal tax. However, clubs must account for all tickets checked out either by turning in the tickets or money before they will be refunded any part of the money due them.

Films by Starlight

(Continued from page 485)

operators busy feeding film into the projectors. Shorts on safety and health, travelogues, and comedies rounded out each evening's program.

Five nights a week, Monday through Friday, a different film was shown at each of four parks. The show began at 9 P. M., lasted an hour and a half. The shows were advertised regularly. Two daily newspapers published releases "selling" each attraction on the basis of audience appeal. Radio stations gave the shows thirty-five "plugs" a week in spot announcements at no cost to the Department. The park recreation leaders announced the shows widely as part of the community recreation program. The promotion campaign was highly successful. Audiences built up steadily during the hot summer weeks. Fifty thousand people saw the films during the summer.

Now that winter has come, movies have gone indoors. They have not gone in to hibernate, however. Educational films will be shown in community centers through the winter months. When hot weather brings people once more in droves to the parks, the sky will again roof the "theater." If 1945 is, as we all hope, a postwar year, other types of educational films will take the place of the war films.

Industrial Recreation Canadian Style

(Continued from page 483)

taste, and a good victrola and radio combination were on hand for people who liked their recreation in less active form. Showers, dressing rooms, and lockers were provided for the girls, and show-

ers and dressing rooms for men who would attend the not infrequent open-house parties and games planned for the future.

The program that developed in the clubhouse was built, like the house itself, about the gym. But to classes in exercise and games was added a course in handcrafts and later (for a nominal fee) classes in the remaking of old clothes. Swimming instruction, though not available at the club, was given to the girls twice each week at the Y.W.C.A. pool. The club membership fee allowed the members to swim in this pool at any time that classes were not in progress.

On Sunday evening from 7:30 P. M. to closing time was Canteen Night to which the servicemen in the city were invited and entertained by Inglis girl workers who act as hostesses. A well-rounded evening of entertainment was planned for these affairs. Beauty contests and holiday parties at every season of the year rounded out the program with special events.

Better Recreation for Our Youth

(Continued from page 469)

summer. Nothing would do more to prevent the drift toward the great cities, which occurs at least as much through boredom as through greater economic opportunity.

All planners of organized recreation should keep in mind the original meaning of the word. It means re-creation. The only recreation that deserves the name is recreation in which the child or youth makes some effort of his own. Children playing in an orchestra, however amateur, or writing, staging, or acting a play of their own, are developing their minds and imaginations. They are developing absolutely nothing as mere spectators or listeners.

Under the Social-Democratic Administration of the City of Vienna, the teen-age children of workers were encouraged to build, with their own hands, throughout the countryside and in the surrounding mountains, their own hiking and skiing shelters. It was fantastic what they achieved, through their own carpentering and building. But the movement had to be organized, and given some financial support. Young people could do much of the building of their own recreation centers in small towns, if they could be given some sort of property to start with, if only a barn. But they would have to have encouragement and adult assistance.

(Continued on page 502)

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Ladies' Home Journal, November 1944
Better Recreation for Youth, Dorothy Thompson

Scholastic Coach, November 1944
Basketball Rules Changes, H. V. Porter

This Week, October 29, 1944
Postwar Industry No. 1, Clarence Woodbury

The Womans Press, November 1944
Pioneering with Teen-Age Hangouts, Hazel Osborn

Hygeia, November 1944
Physical Fitness for America, Morris Fishbein, Herb Graffis and Col. Leonard G. Rowntree

Adult Education Journal, October 1944
Creating a Community, L. Margaret Stanley

Journal of Health and Physical Education, October 1944
Problems of Youth in Peace and War, Eleanor L. Hutzel
Track and Field for Girls in Secondary Schools, Rachael B. Yocom

Journal of Health and Physical Education, November 1944
The Public Schools Look Ahead, by a group of teen-age girls

Safety Education, October 1944
Safe and Sound, Howard G. Danford

Research Quarterly, October 1944
Studies Completed by Members of the National Association of Physical Education for College Women, 1941-1943, Pauline Hodgson
What Is a Physical Fitness Program for Boys? Karl W. Bookwalter

Children's Religion, December 1944
Our Best Christmas Party, Alice Geer Kelsey
Let the Children Play at Christmas, Florence Alvard Dieterich

PAMPHLETS

Playground Safety
Connecticut Highway Safety Commission, Hartford, Connecticut

A Soap Sculpture Manual
National Soap Sculpture Committee, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Agencies Concerned with the Quality of Rural Life in the South
Southern Rural Life Council, George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville 4, Tennessee. Price 50 cents

How to Organize and Activate Your Science Club, 1944 Edition
Science Clubs of America, 1719 N Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Selected Motion Pictures, 1944-1945 Edition
Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

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From Slum to a Playground

ON A 6½ ACRE SITE which seven months ago was cluttered with dilapidated garages and small commercial buildings and tenements, one of the largest playgrounds in New York City was opened on September 16, 1944, in Harlem, with only coal bunkers between it and the Harlem River.

Two thousand fathers, mothers, youths, and children from the congested neighborhood came for the opening, watched a parade, applauded the city officials and Negro leaders who spoke of other improvements to come, and remained to play ball on the new asphalt surface and to use the apparatus which had been installed.

The playground is named in honor of Colonel Charles Young, a Negro officer who graduated from West Point, and served in the Spanish-American War and World War I. Fencing is lacking for the large playfield within the playground, and the construction of a recreation house with bandstand must wait until after the war. Meanwhile there is a large area for supervised and safe play where none existed before in a heavily populated district.

Commissioner Robert Moses, as chairman of the ceremonies, told of two housing projects slated for postwar construction in Harlem—the Abraham Lincoln Houses, a $7,000,000 housing group, and James Weldon Johnson Houses, a $8,000,000 project. It is Mr. Moses' hope that the general hospital for Harlem, estimated to cost $5,500,000, will be built immediately adjoining the Johnson Houses.

Other speakers included Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., who said that the playground was one of the most important steps taken to help solve the problems in Harlem.

Better Recreation for Our Youth

(Continued from page 501)

And the entire recreational facilities of our great cities need replanning and infinite enlargement, if our youth is to have the normal and creative life of youth and not be plunged too early into adulthood. In the end we pay for all our sins of omission—we pay in money, as well as in heartbreak and in scars on our civilization. We have, as a nation, the money, materials, labor, brains and vision to do anything we like. The problem is to put first things first.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Git on Board

Compiled by Beatrice Landeck. Edward B. Marks Music Corporation, New York. $1.00.

"THE PEOPLE HAVE LOST no whit of their power to make great songs out of their experiences," says Norman Studer in the introduction to Beatrice Landeck's compilation of folk songs. It is good that this is so, and good to find concrete evidence of it in songs of the Russian army and the Jugoslav guerillas side by side with the ballads and spirituals kept alive by centuries of singing by the descendants of the people who first made them. These songs and many other kinds have been brought together in arrangements for group singing.

Work and Sing

Selected and arranged by Elie Siegmeister. William R. Scott, Inc., New York. $2.50.

THIS COLLECTION of more than thirty of the songs that built America is a treasury of American work songs of yesterday and today. There are songs of the sea and of the West; songs of railroads and river boats; of the country and of the city. The drawings by Julian Brazelton round out the trio of song, text and picture, and express the lusty spirit of the songs which is so essential a part of our country's history.

"... And Promenade All!"

Compiled by Larry Eisenberg. Order from Mr. Eisenberg at Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Conn. $.35.

THIS LITTLE MIMEOGRAPHED manual "expounding the pleasures of folk treasures" represents an excellent collection of well-known square dances with clearly written directions and with some practical suggestions for teaching. A valuable feature of the publication is that records are suggested for each dance.

Volunteers for Youth Recreation Programs

OCD Publication 3637. Prepared by Office of Civilian Defense in Cooperation with Church Groups, Group Work and Recreation Agencies and Federal Agencies Concerned with Youth. U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. $.10.

THIS PRACTICAL PAMPHLET presents suggestions for joint recruiting and training. The material is treated under two main headings: Part One — The Campaign, with suggestions for recruiting, publicity, and the selection of volunteers; Part Two—Training and Development.

Outdoors on Your Own

By E. Lawrence Palmer. *The American Home,* New York. $.15.

"EXPLORE, EMPLOY, ENJOY," is the burden of this pamphlet. It is full of suggestions about the out of doors, the things to do and the things not to do on hikes or bikes, with fire and water. A suggested list for further reading is a valuable addenda to the booklet.

A Directory of Plays for All Female Casts

National Thespian Society, Cincinnati, Ohio. $.25.

A LIST OF PLAYS for all-women casts has been a need sorely felt by drama directors and teachers in the past few years. A committee of high school dramatic teachers under the chairmanship of Robert W. Ensley has prepared such a list. The directory does not include every known play with women only in the cast. An effort has been made, however, to include many types of plays, and the directory should prove a real help to harassed directors who have watched their available men actors silently steal away during the last two or three years.

The Servicewoman and Her Leisure Time in the Community

Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare and Recreation, Room 1-E 575, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C. Free.

THIS MIMEOGRAPHED STATEMENT, which tells what communities are doing and what they can do to meet the needs of servicewomen, was prepared in accordance with the recommendation of a conference held in May 1944 of government agencies and national organizations interested in the welfare of servicewomen. Anyone wishing a copy of this statement may secure it by writing the Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare and Recreation.

Modelling for Amateurs

By Clifford and Rosemary Ellis. Studio Publications, Inc., New York. $1.00.

FOR THE BEGINNER in modelling here is an effective guide book. Thirty-three illustrations give additional value to sections on work with clay, work with wire, newspaper and paste, and work with cut and twisted paper.

All Aboard, We Are Off

Story and pictures by Nura. Studio Publications, Inc., New York. $2.50.

CHILDREN WHO LIKE plenty of pictures with their stories will be fascinated by this book with its tales of visits to new and exciting lands and, most exciting of all, it's an airplane that takes them to these countries—the Land of Play, the Land of Food, the Land of Study, of Story Books, and best of all, the Land of Home.

How to Make a Speech and Enjoy It

By Helen Patridge. National Publicity Council, 130 East 22nd Street, New York. $.75.

HERE IS GOOD ADVICE for the novice at speechmaking. The booklet begins with how to treat the victim when stage fright first rears its ugly head, and takes the reader through all the stages of preparing for and delivering that maiden speech. The material is presented with graphic simplicity and amusing illustrations.

Boys and Girls Together.

By Margaret Shreffler and George B. Corwin. The Womans Press, New York. $.25.

The purpose of *Boys and Girls Together* is to suggest ways by which youth and adults can build a program for youth that will provide opportunity for co-recreational activities, including recreation. The contents are practical and helpful. There are suggestions for planning and starting the program, for promotion and attendance, and for leadership. There is a section on projects in practice and occasional programs. Finally the subject of co-recreation centers is discussed and an outline given.

The Care and Construction of Tennis Courts.

1945 Edition. United States Lawn Tennis Association, 120 Broadway, New York 5. $.25.

Here is an exceedingly practical mimeographed bulletin which clubs planning to build new courts or resurface old ones will do well to study carefully. Different types of surfaces are discussed in detail, and their advantages and disadvantages pointed out.

Is There Interaction Between Recreation and Religion?

By Howard Johnson, Ph.D. Obtainable from the author at 1101 Harrison Street, Philadelphia 24. $1.00.

Dr. Johnson, author of *Should the School Absorb the Church Program?, The House That Hope Built,* and other monographs, wrote this thesis as partial fulfillment for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Graduate School of the University of North Dakota. In securing information for the thesis he made use of a questionnaire, 488 of which were returned. The results of his findings are shown in a number of charts.

While Dr. Johnson's treatment of the subject is necessarily academic, he has succeeded in keeping it somewhat popular in tone, and the use of examples and stories of individual church situations have helped to make it a readable document.

Ride Your Hobby High.

By Beatrice Elizabeth Allen. Girls' Friendly Society, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. $.25.

Here is a series of attractive and constructive suggestions on hobbies designed for girls twelve years old and younger. Five sheets of instruction and illustration deal with music and musical instruments, dancing, marionettes, lending libraries, and hobby shows.

The American School and University.

American School Publishing Corporation, 470 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. $2.50.

This is the sixteenth annual edition of a yearbook "devoted to design, construction, equipment, utilization, and maintenance of educational buildings and grounds." The emphasis, as might be expected in 1944, is on postwar planning and on the lessons taught educators by the war experience, especially with audio-visual techniques. The section on "Instructional Materials" is especially valuable for its comment on the postwar use of audio-visual materials.

Checker Magic.

By Tommy Wiswell. David McKay, Philadelphia. $1.50.

Here is a collection of 100 checker problems from the work of some of the outstanding composers of the present day. Comments and quotations on the game appear on each page, making of the book a sort of anthology of checker lore as well as a source book of problems.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933, of RECREATION, published monthly at New York 10, N. Y., for October 1, 1944.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
COUNTY OF NEW YORK, }

Before me, a notary public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared HOWARD BRAUCHER, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of RECREATION, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

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Editor: Howard Braucher, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Managing Editor: Abbie Condit, 315 Fourth Avenue, York York 10, N. Y.

Business Manager: R. J. Schwartz, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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None.

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5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is (This information is required from daily publications only.)

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1944.

[SEAL] MIRIAM S. C. DOCHTERMANN,
Notary Public, Nassau County.

Nassau County Clerk's No. 317. Certificate Filed in New York County. Clerk's No. 26. Register's No. 27-D-6. My Commission expires March 30, 1946.

We Build

We build the world we want.
We build a world of light,
A world of beauty,
A world of dancing feet,
A world of the light-hearted,
A world of gaiety and joy and good cheer,
A world of good companions.

Who builds?
You build.
I build.
We build.

I do not build for you.
You do not build for me.
I help you build.
You help me build.
We build for all together.
Nothing comes to you without effort.
Nothing comes to me without effort.
Nothing comes to us without effort,—handed down from above.

Barriers that keep beauty from you I can remove.
Barriers that keep beauty from me you can remove.
You may be the keeper of the lighthouse that lights the path for me.
But equally I may be the keeper of the lighthouse that lights the path for you.
But I must see beauty for myself with my own eyes.
You must see and hear beauty for yourself with your own eyes and ears.
I am the keeper of my soul.
You are the keeper of your soul.

Naught of sovereignty, each of his own soul, do we surrender.

Yet together we build.
Yet together bit by bit we build a world.
Not a new world.
The same old world,
With ugly barriers blocked out,
With sunlight let in,
A world of joy and understanding and comradeship.

We build together
A world that is to be simple,
A world that is to be beautiful,
A world that is to be human,
A world we can all understand,
A world of freedom,
A world that belongs to all of us,
A world of strength and gladness.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

January

Photo by Gustav Anderson

Courtesy York, Pa., Recreation Commission

When Fun's a Family Affair at School!

By ROBERT L. HORNEY
Director of Recreation
Board of Park Commissioners
Davenport, Iowa

DOES THE POSTWAR plan of your town include a school or two? It would, if you had ever seen six revolutionary elementary schools at Davenport, Iowa. Even if your city has fairly new, really rather impressive schools right now, those at Davenport would make you hurry down to the City Council. Seeing one for the first time is a little like a first visit to Radio City in the early thirties. It suddenly opens up a whole new perspective.

Each school has a "town-size" living room. Off the living room is a completely equipped kitchen. Near by is a gymnasium, an auditorium, and an art or music room. These rooms are not for just the students. They're not available from 9 to 4. They're for the whole community—Your Music or Made to Measure Club, Dad's Handball Club or Discussion Group. Each of these community-designed rooms: living room, kitchen, gym, auditorium—can be entered independently of the rest of the school. In fact the rest of the school can be ingeniously closed off. Each of these "community" units can even be heated independently of the rest of the building. The word community tells the tale. The architect who designed the buildings was requested to plan them for community use.

During the winter of 1943, with the country resounding to cries of juvenile and parental delinquency, Davenport's children and parents got together socially in ways which proved enjoyable to young and old. One of the city's swank neighborhoods, generally pictured as being up to its sun decks in private game rooms, turned out en masse for "family night" offered every Friday by the PTA recreation committee and city Recreation Department in community-designed McKinley School.

Family Nights at McKinley School

Everyone from five to seventy-five is eligible to attend these family nights at Davenport's McKinley School. There's a different form of fun for every age group in the family. While Susie and Bobby are offered two hours of movies in the school auditorium, Mom and Dad enjoy a program of fun in the gymnasium. And the teens aren't neglected. They, in fact, rate the spacious, luxurious community room.

Movies for the tots and tykes begin with a half hour of community singing under a trained leader from the Recreation Department. After excess childish steam is let off in this enjoyable way, the youngsters see their special show. It is a feature program, complete in variety as that downtown at the Paramount. The feature movie, which might be a western or sea tale, is balanced with comedy. A travelogue is often included. Occasionally there's a stage show, too—made up of talent drawn from the boys and girls themselves.

With the children out of the way, what sort of frivolity is offered Mom and Dad in the gymnasium? Activities follow the interests of the group itself. Volleyball or table tennis are available for those who want exercise. There are bridge and other card games for those in the mood to relax. Garden slides and requested horticultural lectures

have proven popular. Sometimes the fun is the mental variety. Spelling contests and quiz programs were tried out. "But the spelling bees and quiz programs didn't work out as well as a lot of other programs," Mrs. MacLaughlin, the PTA chairman, will tell you. "We had a lot more successful programs than those."

A style show by the dads was one of these star evenings. Four natural-born clowns of the community put on a spring revue of feminine fashions that rolled even blasé teens in the aisles. Another hit was a mother-daughter song revue called the Pinafore Chorus. Stars were tiny glamour-girl third-graders and their mothers. Daughters and mothers were dressed alike in identical snowy-white ruffled pinafores. The act was built around a song the third-graders had learned in school: "Can She Bake a Cherry Pie, Billy Boy?" Such a five-star act did this turn out to be that two other neighborhoods requested performances. A "community talent" night proved another hit.

While the children watch their movies, and parents enjoy their chosen recreation in the gym, the teens have three choices. They may dance to the newest recordings; they may play a variety of games set up in the wide corridors by the Recreation Department staff, or they may enjoy the "snacks" and soft drinks available at a portable snack bar.

After individual groups have had about two hours of fun, and the movies end, everyone meets in the gym for dancing. Music is furnished by an orchestra made up of the dads themselves. Originally one musical parent who played his way through college—on the piano—was going to be lone music maestro. A college friend gifted at the violin turned up at Family Night. He was persuaded to add his talent. Eventual result: a seven-piece orchestra consisting of piano, drums, banjo, cornet, three saxophones.

Someone asked Charley Zoller, the originator of the Dads' Orchestra, how often the band rehearsed. "Oh, I guess we've had a serious rehearsal about once," he admitted.

Fun is definitely the password at the Davenport family nights. The orchestra has had such a good time playing for the neighborhood programs that it is planning to meet during the summer just for the fun of it! A dads' Tennis Club has also developed through Family Nights at McKinley School.

Every week's family night program is different. All are planned a month in advance by a program committee. The committee uses suggestions from everyone as a spring-board for bright entertainment ideas. There have been some excellent suggestions—and lots of them, according to Mrs. McLaughlin. Evening duties are so thoroughly divided that all but five per cent of those attending usually have something to do. This division has a fine point: No one is tied down for longer than a portion of the evening to serious duties like door attendance, seating the children at their movies, handling the portable snack bar for the teens' dancing, or serving refreshments later in the community room.

When family nights first got under way—and many people doubted their success in this particular community—an attendance of a hundred or a hundred and fifty was predicted as being more than satisfactory to all concerned. As it turned out, average attendance is usually three hundred people. Some nights have drawn six hundred.

Admission is a thin dime — paid by everyone. Money goes to the Parent-Teacher Community Recreation Committee. In the beginning, many wanted a much larger admission fee, particularly in this community. As it turned out, the ten cent admission fee is now considered a stroke of genius. A plump little fund has been run up by the PTA that far exceeds fondest hopes.

And the fun all started when Mrs. F. J. MacLaughlin, resourceful, energetic PTA chairman, and her recreation committee, decided that their goal for the year would be to bring parent and child together more in a recreational way. They knew the object behind the construction of the beautiful Davenport schools. After a joint meeting of the PTA and Recreation Department, the family fun nights were started.

The way the Parent-Teacher Council itself has worked the idea out receives tribute from the city's Recreation Department. So capable have they proven that the duties of the recreation staff have boiled down to furnishing facilities, setting up game equipment, the portable snack bar, and public address system. Parents

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"The problem of preparing America for the fruitful use of leisure calls for adaptation of the school system to the needs of both young and older people, and the operation of school buildings full time as centers of activity. . . . We can do remarkable things with the educational machinery we have set up if we can place squarely before the people the idea of creation; if we can give practical expression to the fundamental urge to work and to create." — *John W. Studebaker.*

A Key Apiece

In case you missed the first installment of the story of Webster Groves' recreation program, we suggest you turn to the article, "We Need Each Other," in the July 1944 issue of RECREATION.

By JANE HOLMAN
Chairman, Community Activities
Webster Groves, Missouri

FOR NINE WEEKS the women and young people of Webster Groves had been moving in a charmed circle, a creative world of crafts and arts. For nine weeks, as hot day passed into hot day, they had met and pooled their various skills in daily craft classes. Now fall had come. The Shelter at Forty Acres was deserted, battened down and boarded up for the winter. The handcraft courses had ended in a blaze of glorious display of articles made by the students. The women and young people were a little sad, a little let down.

A few of them still had work in progress; work that, for the good of their souls, had to be finished. These craftsmen begged to be allowed to complete their jobs. The chairman of Community Activities heard their cry, and soon they were meeting once a week at Harmony House.

It could be that the Chairman's acquiescence to their importunities was not without malice aforethought! Be that as it may, out of those weekly meetings a dream was born—a dream and a plan to make the dream come true. The dream was a vision of a community studio—a place where, for a small fee, any citizen of Webster Groves could practice a craft or learn one; where exhibits of their work could be shown and orders taken from samples; a studio equipped for function and charm. Here there would be no hard and fast rules save one, "No home neglecting!" Each member would have a key of her own, sign and symbol that she could come and go as she liked. There would be facilities for preparing simple meals or snacks. Each member who had some special skill would share that skill with those who wished to learn from her.

This was the dream, born from experience in a summer craft class. It was not long left in the dream state. The City Council, the Mayor, Community Activities believed in it. With their help, and by hard work and cooperative and intelligent planning, the Community Studio came into being.

It was opened on October 20th in what had been an old and ugly filling station, far gone in dilapidation. The city provided free labor on the really back-breaking parts of the reconditioning job. The women dug putty out of broken windows, painted walls, made curtains. Furniture was hauled out of attics and painted white. A green ping-pong table served as color contrast and display table. Paintings by local artists were hung in the small lounge. At night candles shone through the windows to welcome visitors and members alike to a setting almost Dickensesque. Visitors or "shoppers" found a cup of coffee and "high class" though not "high pressure" sales techniques awaiting them.

The studio is open on week days except Tuesdays, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.; Saturdays from 10 in the morning to 10 at night. Sunday afternoon is a period when visitors can drop in and "just look." Women and high school students make up

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Brunswick on the Warpath

By NAN BARRY
Assistant Director, Recreation Program
United Service Organizations, Inc.
Brunswick, Maine

THE NAVY LANDED. We were prepared. Brunswick, Maine, is a leisurely town, a college town, a friendly town, but the serviceman's first reaction when he got off the train was, "I'm going back where I came from." This town definitely did not comply with the Hollywood version of duty in the States. The fact that Brunswick is wide-awake didn't show, but the men's first trip to town made them realize that at least they were not unexpected by Brunswick and its USO.

We knew they were coming. When and how was strictly a military secret. The question on every lip was, "What are we going to do with them when they get here?" Our chief problems were limited facilities and a meager budget. Recognizing our limitations, we proceeded to ignore them. Yankee ingenuity would have to live up to its reputation!

Our first step was to form a USO executive committee to make plans, designate responsibility, formulate a program. On this committee were representatives from churches, civic organizations, clubs, unions, and schools. We wanted to forestall any possible competitive programs which have brought grief to some communities. The criteria for committee membership were imagination, a sense of humor, and a definite interest in helping entertain servicemen. This is one of the secrets of our success. There is no dissension among groups. All work together because all work for the same thing. We couldn't miss—and we didn't.

Town, gown, and the Navy meet at a street dance held on the Bowdoin College Campus

Photo by Harry Shulman

Photo by Harry Shulman

There's usually a group of "kibitzers" when the craft classes are in progress

The town came to the fore and donated clubrooms — rent free, heat and light furnished — on the third floor of the town building. The location was central—but would anybody climb all those stairs? During the past year some 50,000 people have answered that question positively. The town was scoured for furniture. We took anything if it was free. The result lacked that "chintzy" look that is so conducive to coziness but the men came, stayed, liked it. Why? Because of the spirit in which the club is rich. The rooms are as friendly and casual as any boy's home. Hospitality, by the way, extends beyond the clubrooms, for the men are entertained in many private homes.

The Brunswick USO started in October 1942, and until February 1944 all of the work was done by volunteers. This helped with the budget—our second problem. All of the games, magazines, and equipment were donated by the townspeople. We had no canteen. The club was open in the evening with two volunteers on hand to help entertain the men. The Navy kept coming and what we had wasn't enough. Especially we didn't have enough money. So the community sponsored a special benefit dance to raise money needed to carry on the program. Most of this money was used for janitorial services and repairs, so that the program was run on the proverbial shoestring for over a year. In fact, from October 1942 to October 1943 we worked with $603, and during this time 19,000 men were entertained.

Shortly after the rooms opened we decided that there was a certain congeniality about food—and besides, men are always hungry. We called on the women, and from December 1942 to the present sandwiches, cake, and doughnuts have been served —all of them donated by various organizations, not only in Brunswick but also in the surrounding towns. That's how we can serve snacks free.

In the two years we have been operating we have hit a few snags. Worst of all was the moment when the fire inspector banned the USO rooms as a fire hazard! But one of the local churches offered its parish house as a substitute on that occasion, and we moved out temporarily and carried on. During this time our request for funds to the national USO came through. One of the items included was a sum for redecoration. We killed two birds with one stone: got rid of the fire hazard, and acquired a "chintzy" look—and a canteen that was more than a hot plate tucked on a shelf!

Until February 1944, the USO program consisted of providing clubrooms where servicemen could come, have a snack, dance a little, read, write letters, or amuse themselves with games and other facilities at hand. All of this work was carried on by volunteers, and from the start of the program the monthly attendance had grown from 65 to 4,481. The rooms were now open daily from 1 to 11 P. M., and there were junior and senior hostesses on duty at all times. Volunteers also took care of the thousand and one details involved in a project of this sort.

The USO program has been, from the first, a community project; and when the first paid worker came in February of this year, it continued as such.

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Detroit Plans for the Future

By J. J. CONSIDINE
General Superintendent
Department of Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department of Detroit is taking a very active part in the making of postwar plans

DETROIT'S realization of its recreational needs is reflected in the improvement program for the future which envisions spending more than $30,000,000 for parks, playgrounds, and other recreation facilities. These plans are not all postwar projects. The far-sighted, recreation-minded Mayor of the city, Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., has insisted upon setting aside funds annually for a capital improvement program for the construction of the most needed facilities just as soon as the building material and equipment are released without waiting for the termination of the war.

Acquisition of land for parks and playgrounds, further development of land now in possession, construction of recreation centers, outdoor swimming pools, refectory buildings, and music shells in parks, are on the list.

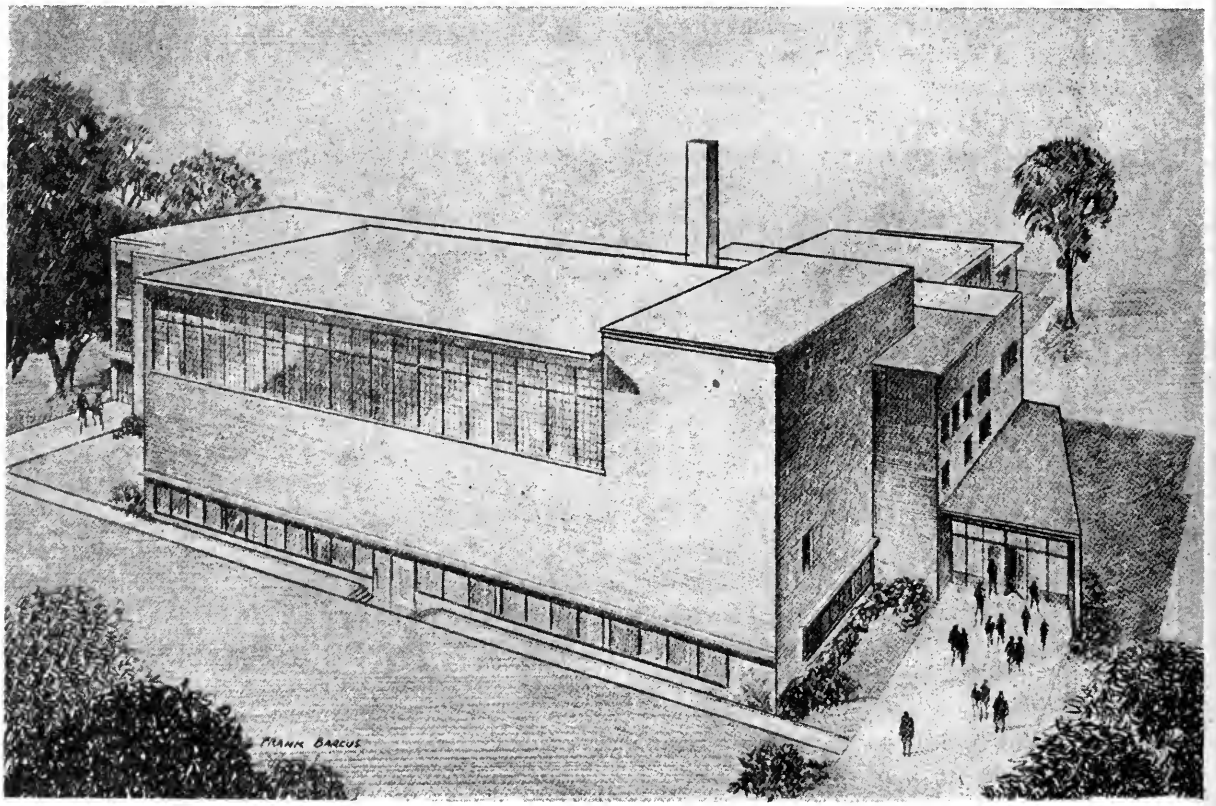
Most of these projects are past the dream stage; a large number of them have blueprints completed, and work could be started immediately if the go signal were given.

Areas to Be Improved

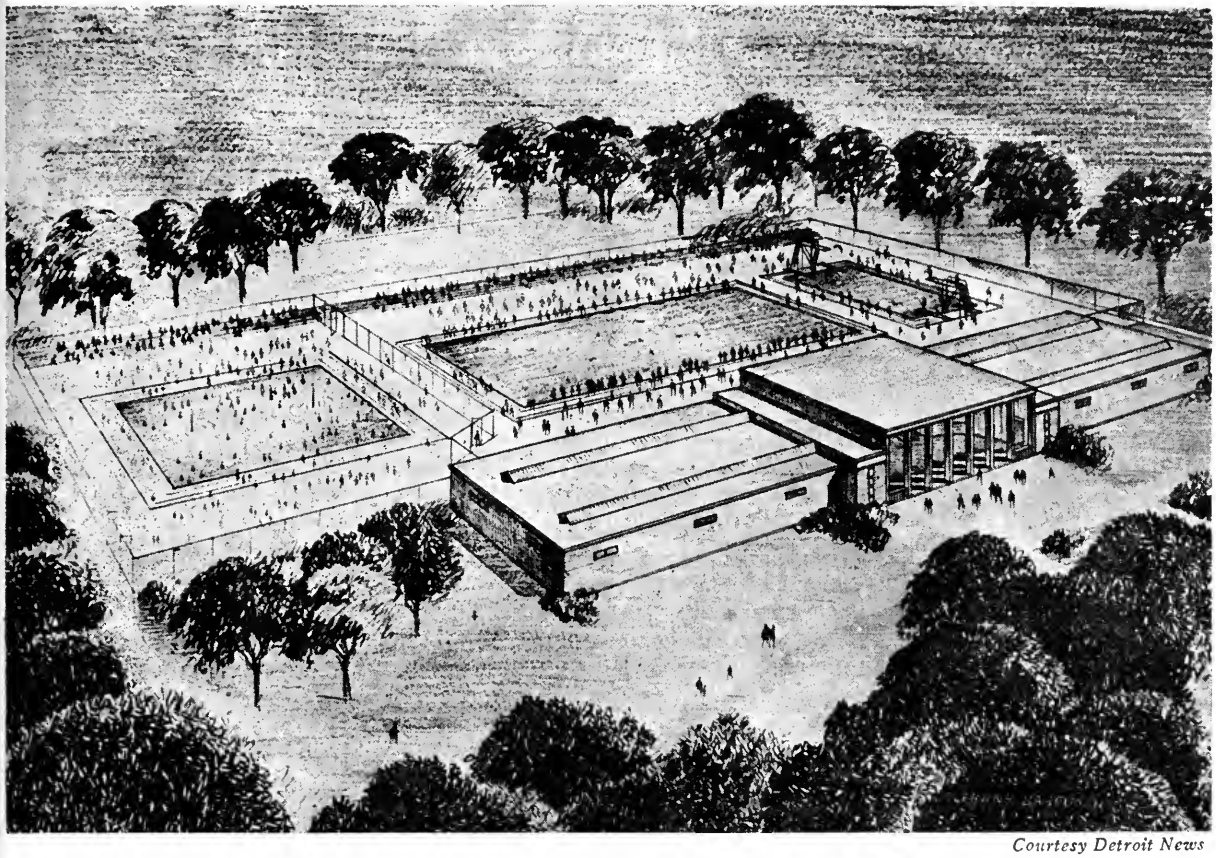
Land, comprising 1,290 acres, now in possession of the Department will be developed and improved through grading and landscaping for park and playground purposes. The cost is estimated at $3,799,305.

New Parks and Playgrounds

A total of 1,343 acres of land will be acquired for park and recreation areas through condemnation at a cost of $25,000,000. This will bring the total recreation acreage in Detroit up to 6,500 acres. To develop this new land for the pleasure of the public will cost an additional $6,500,000.



Courtesy Detroit News



Courtesy Detroit News

New Buildings

Seventy-one new buildings are planned. This includes seventeen community houses, eight outdoor swimming pools, two indoor sports arenas, two outdoor stadiums, park refectories, comfort stations, and music shells at a total cost of $13,892,000.

New Community Centers. Although Detroit enjoys remarkable cooperation from the Board of Education in the use of school buildings for after-school recreation, there still remains a great need for buildings especially constructed for recreational purposes. Many of the schools, particularly in the older neighborhoods, are unsuitable for recreational use, and in such localities special buildings are needed. Our present recreation buildings have demonstrated the need for facilities which can be open to the public from early morning until late at night.

"Detroit is your city . . . our city . . .a good city. Yet all of us know it can be made much better . . . a finer city in which to live and work. All of us have dreamed about the 'Detroit of Tomorrow.' We have said that some day we'll have *this,* some day we'll have *that* . . . and then our city will be a safer, happy, more comfortable community for all of us.

"The time for idle dreaming is past. Before us now is the opportunity to have the things we want. We want play areas and schools conveniently located near our homes. We want decent homes in clean, airy surroundings to replace our slums. We want health centers, libraries, recreation centers, safe streets, and express highways."—*Your Detroit.*

The seventeen recreation centers planned will follow the pattern proved successful in some of our present buildings. There will be a combination gymnasium and auditorium, showers, locker rooms, craft and game rooms. These centers are to be erected in the areas showing the greatest density of population combined with scarcity of suitable facilities.

Other Buildings. Twelve new buildings are planned as refectories for golf courses and other park locations to replace or augment present inadequate facilities. Music shells, where band concerts, community singing, and other musical entertainments can be staged, are in the plans. Comfort stations and service buildings make up the remainder of the seventy-one other structures for which plans are being made.

Outdoor Swimming Pools. Inadequacy of outdoor swimming facilities will be rem-

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Operating Artificial Skating Rinks

By GEORGE B. CASKEY
Superintendent, Park District
Winnetka, Illinois

At the 17th Annual Convention of the Illinois Association of Park Districts held at Peoria, Mr. Caskey discussed the care and maintenance of artificial ice rinks as they are maintained and operated at Winnetka. Since much of the discussion applies to skating on ponds, lakes, and rivers, we asked Mr. Caskey's permission to publish the material in RECREATION.

Mr. Caskey sounds a note of warning: "If you contemplate providing skating rinks in your community, I would advise you to check your weather conditions throughout the entire winter very thoroughly."

IN WINNETKA, with a population of 12,700, we operate three skating rinks with a total area for all the rinks of 2.63 acres, or 114,782 square feet divided as follows: Hubbard Woods, 39,322; Indian Hill, 45,940; Skokie Playfield, 29,520. At Hubbard Woods the entire area is devoted to general skating, although during the greater part of the time a portion of this rink is roped off for the use of figure skaters. On the other two we operate hockey rinks—a regulation size rink 85′ x 200′ at Indian Hill, and a practice rink 46′ x 120′ at Skokie Playfield where the tennis courts are flooded for skating. The practice hockey rink is located outside the tennis court enclosure.

Attendance

On the basis of the population of 12,700, this is a total area of approximately 9 square feet per person. On the basis of the average number of skating buttons (4,161) we have sold per year over the past seven years, plus an average of 579 daily fee skaters per season for the period this is an average area of 24.2 square feet per skater. It is believed that the area of each rink is sufficient for our small community, although a larger area would be desirable. Judging by the number of buttons sold, approximately 33 per cent of our population use the rinks—and, take it from me, some of them "live it."

The attendance at each rink is carefully estimated each day by the attendant in charge and a complete report of the day's activities rendered the superintendent. Over the past seven years there has been an average estimated yearly attendance of 54,404 at the three rinks with an all-time high attendance record of 62,629 for the year 1940-41. The lowest for the seven years was last year when an attendance of 48,523 was estimated—a short skating season. For the year 1940-41, which was an unusually good year for skating, there was a daily average of 835 for the 75 days of skating. It might be added that in that year the rinks were flooded on the evening of November 27th and were kept open until March 2nd. During that same year we tried to keep a separate record of adult attendance and minor attendance. This adult attendance was estimated at 18,051 or 28.8 per cent, and the minor attendance at 44,578, or 71.2 per cent of the total attendance.

We hold at least one, and sometimes three, annual racing carnivals per year at our rinks. The competition at these events is very keen. Boys who learned to skate on our rinks have won awards in the meets at Chicago and others of equal importance. Our annual figure skating carnival is a classic event. Some of these carnivals have been attended by a crowd estimated at over 2,000.

Rinks Should Be Neigborhood Affairs

We have found that the skating rink, if it is to be used to an appreciable extent, must be a neighborhood affair. Children come in the early evening and after school. For this reason the rink must be close to the home. It is believed that a large centrally located rink, while probably much more economical to operate, would not serve as well as several smaller rinks distributed throughout the community. Older children and adults will travel the greater distance—but not the small child of school age. Rinks next to schools are very desirable, with a part of the school building used as a shelter.

The ideal arrangement might be to have a large centrally located rink providing areas for games, hockey, and figure skating, with small rinks in the outlying areas to take care of little children. These, as well as the large rink, would probably serve better if located close enough to the schools so that they could be used during recess and lunch times.

From the time a boy takes a hockey stick in his hand, he and the stick are inseparable

A Square Deal for All

In the operation of our rinks six different groups must be considered. These are the beginners, figure skaters, those skating for relaxation and pleasure, those who play games, and those who race. We have found it necessary to segregate these groups, apportion the time for each of them, or prohibit certain activities entirely. We have found that a boy will come to the rink with a pair of skates today. Tomorrow he will learn to stand on them. The third day he will have a hockey stick in his hand, and from that time on the skates, the boy, and the hockey stick will be inseparable. The enthusiasm for hockey surpasses that for any other sport for which we provide facilities, and I know no game which furnishes more thrills. For safety sake a separate rink area protected by a fence must be provided for the use of hockey players.

Small children and adults just learning to skate, need a small area aside from the other skaters. Figure skaters require a separate area, and we might say a separate area is required for those who just skate for relaxation and exercise. Children of public school ages like to play games such as ice tag, crack-the-whip, and "stinko." General skating and games do not go together. The inevitable result is something like that which occurs when two irresistible forces meet head-on. Those aspiring for the Silver Skates would make an Indianapolis Speedway out of every skating rink, with a triple A, 1-A priority, to the total exclusion of everyone else.

We have evolved a fairly successful plan for handling these groups: At two of our rinks hockey rinks are provided. At the third rink the attendant is an Irishman. To him the sight of a hockey stick is like the proverbial waving of the red flag at a bull. Any boy who even dares to bring the stick within sight evokes a burst of Irish oratory, and the offense is rarely ever repeated! At this rink an area is set aside for figure skating. (It is permitted at the other two rinks.) Games may be played at the discretion of the attendants, but on the whole they are discouraged as being in most instances rather dangerous. A time is set aside at one of the rinks close to the dinner hour when the racers are allowed to exercise their priority, and they are usually given another period just before the rink closes at ten o'clock in the evening when the crowd has thinned out.

At two of the rinks a small area, approximately 20′ x 30′, is set aside for the exclusive use of beginners and small children; on the third, at the tennis court enclosure, they hug the corners.

On the Technical Side

Two of the rinks are on level grass areas, with a one foot shoulder around the outside edges. The third is on the tennis courts at the Playfield. The high shoulder around the outside edges is unnecessary and objectionable because it interferes with snow removal. A low shoulder, long and sloping, approximately 6 inches in height, is sufficient, and is desirable only because it makes it possible to flood the area and allows the water to freeze in the same manner that a lake or pond would freeze. The practice hockey rink at the Playfield is located on the grass area adjacent to the tennis courts. All three rinks are provided with tile drainage and have tile openings at the surface.

These openings are covered prior to flooding, but are "referenced in" so that they may be opened at any time in order to drain off water from melting ice or from rain.

On the grass rinks a fine sod is maintained. Every effort has been made to improve the sod on these areas, as it has been found that it is easier to maintain the ice over the best sodded portions of the area than on areas that were bare. The grass seems to act as an insulating cushion, preventing the high sun of the latter part of January and February from melting the ice as quickly as on the sodless areas.

The tennis courts that are flooded consist of two clay and two tarvialithic courts. Much difficulty has been experienced in maintaining ice on the tarvia courts after February 1st when the sun's rays become quite direct, unless a heavy layer of ice can be built up. We have been able to some extent to solve the problem of melting ice by covering these two courts with a one-half inch layer of sand. This acts as insulation in much the same manner as does grass. Where adequate drainage is provided there should be no noticeable grass suffocation. We have none on our two grass rinks.

We obtain our water for making ice from the Village of Winnetka. Fire hydrants have been installed for the purpose in close proximity to each rink. These hydrants are designed for intermittent use only, and they do not stand up under constant, continued usage, particularly during extreme cold weather. If they are to be used, a tile drain connecting the drain valve of the hydrant must be provided or the hydrant will freeze. We use a 1½" hose and a long tapering nozzle with a ½" opening for flooding. In using a fire hydrant it is necessary, of course, to have the hydrant wide open. We attach a 1½" valve between the hydrant and the hose, using this for a control should it be necessary to shut off the hose.

Before starting to flood, we mow the grass rink areas as late as possible and, if time permits, we roll the areas just before the ground freezes. The area should be frozen before attempting to make ice, although this is not absolutely necessary inasmuch as it is possible to build ice on ground that is not frozen.

We build up the ice by spraying layer by layer, holding the nozzle of the hose high enough to get the maximum coverage. The men spray as if they were trying to water a newly-seeded lawn without washing out any of the seeds. Avoid holding the hose parallel to the ground or slightly downward, and go over the area very quickly, putting the water on only as fast as it will freeze. There should be little or no water standing on the rink when the work is completed, and it may be necessary to wait for the water to freeze into ice before spraying again. At times our men spent fifteen to twenty minutes spraying the rinks, and thirty minutes waiting for the water to freeze. Sometimes three or four light sprays are given before a wait is necessary. On cold nights, with temperatures of zero or below, the water will freeze as fast as it can be applied. Too long a wait will cause the ice to flake. Water should be applied while the surface is somewhat wet or "tacky," like a somewhat freshly painted surface.

It's an artificial rink on the roof of the Madison Square Boys' Club in New York City, and it's a very popular one!

The greater part of our spraying, except when we start making ice, is done after 10 P. M. when the rinks close. Two men are used, one holding the nozzle, the other dragging the hose out of the way. The hose should not be dragged along the newly sprayed ice or remain on the ice for any length of time as it will roughen the surface of the newly formed ice or melt its way into the ice. On any grass plot or uneven surface it will take two nights, or approximately thirty hours, to build up a fair skating surface. On a smooth even surface like a tennis court it is possible to build ice in from twelve to fifteen hours of flooding. As soon as a coat of ice is secured over the rink, the area is scraped to cut off any bumps or grass blades that stick through the ice, and to obtain as smooth a surface as is possible on which to build.

The scrapers used consist of a 1" x 12" board 6 feet long, to which is fastened a ⅛" x 1¼" piece of scrap iron as a cutting edge and handles for pushing. We have some scrapers that are only 4 feet long which we use in pushing snow. Care must be taken to keep the edges of the scraper straight so that it will thoroughly clean the ice. We have found these scrapers more satisfactory than the small power-driven rotary brushes.

At the start of the season we try as quickly as possible to build up a layer of ice to a depth of 6 inches. As soon as this thickness of ice is obtained, only sufficient spraying is done each night to maintain it. It has been our experience that the warmth of the sun will not penetrate to any great extent through 6 inches of ice unless the temperature is high and the warm spell prolonged. Before flooding each evening, the ice is scraped to remove all scrapings left by the skaters. This leaves a good clean surface to build on. Any holes in the ice are filled with ice scrapings or snow, wetted, and securely tamped. The flooding freezes these solid, and the next morning they are not visible.

Light snows are removed with the hand scrapers previously described. In case heavy snows are encountered, a snow plow mounted on a truck or tractor is necessary. We have been using very successfully a Meyer snow plow mounted on our Toro golf course tractor. To prevent spillage and obtain a clean sweep we have small "wings" or "sideboards" on this plow.

Quite frequently during the skating season a warm spell with a certain amount of rainfall is countered. When this happens to such an extent that there is water standing on the ice, drains are opened and the water is allowed to run away. It is sometimes necessary to remove a portion of this slush or water by hand. Many times if we feel that a severe cold spell is imminent, we leave the water on the ice allowing it to freeze, letting nature do the flooding for us. Quite frequently a wet snow will form a slush on the ice. This is difficult to remove, and in some instances it is not desirable to attempt removal, but to wait for it to freeze and then spray.

The latter part of the season we have difficulty with what we call "mushrooms." These bumps on the ice were so serious last season that there were several days on which it was impossible to skate although there was a heavy layer of ice on the rinks. We tried to remove these with a road grader and were partially successful. It is believed that an ice planer might be equally effective.

Length of Season

In view of the fact that we charge for the use of our rinks, we endeavor to maintain the ice whenever weather conditions justify. We make ice with the first cold weather and maintain it as late in the season as possible. Over the past ten years we have averaged forty-nine and a half full days of skating of thirteen hours each; nineteen part-days of from two to twelve hours each, or a total average of sixty-eight and a half days skating per year and an average of nineteen days during the season when there was no skating. The rinks were operated, that is, days of skating and no skating, an average of 87.5 days per year during the period.

Over the past seven years we have used an average of 1,460 cubic feet of water per 1,000 square feet of ice maintained, with a high of 1,900 cubic feet for the season of 1937-38, and a low of 999 cubic feet last year. This use varies somewhat with the length of the skating season, but more particularly with the number of times it is necessary to remake the ice.

What Does It Cost?

The average yearly cost of operating the rinks for the past seven years has been $5,210.58; the average yearly revenue from fees, $2,398.66, making the net average cost of operation, $2,811.92.

For Their Comfort and Enjoyment

At each of our rinks a heated shelter house is provided and the rinks are floodlighted. This is

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Living Memorials

By GORDON B. WALLACE
Superintendent of Parks
Wilmette, Illinois

Some extracts from an address given by Mr. Wallace before the meeting of the Illinois Association of Park Districts at Peoria on October 26, 1944. Reprinted from the November-December issue of *Parks and Recreation.*

THE MEN AND WOMEN returning from action in this holocaust want nothing of a graphic nature erected in their communities that is going to remind them of any part of this war. Also, they do not wish to be remembered as just another name on a bronze plaque in case they do not return. I say this with assurance because I have discussed the matter with many of them and with other park men who have done the same thing.

One case in particular, that of a young flyer who has seen action in a flying fortress, is brought to mind. When asked what his reactions to war memorials in general were, he said something like this: "There were several occasions in the past year where life for me and my companions was a matter of existing from one minute to the next. I had never done much thinking about myself before, but I wondered then what I had accomplished while alive that would make anyone want to remember me in case I should depart from this world in the next few seconds. I thought that they would probably erect a stone of some sort as a monument, but the idea displeased me. I used to enjoy playing basketball in a certain gymnasium, and close to the foul line in that gym was a steam radiator on which I had severely bruised my head on several occasions. Strange as it may seem, at that moment when the uncertainty of my existence was most evident, there was nothing that I wanted done more in my memory, or in my name, than to have the position of that radiator changed so that some kid using that gymnasium wouldn't have to experience the painful injuries I had received."

There was a young man spending what he thought would be his last few moments of life fervently hoping that somebody would make just a small portion of this world a better place in which to live for those who were to follow him. I firmly believe that this sort of thinking on the part of our servicemen and women is the rule rather than the exception. I further believe that every park district and every city and village has certain recreational or practical needs that have long been unfulfilled, extending from drinking fountains to shelters, to wildflower and bird sanctuaries, to additional park and playground areas, to community houses, to stadiums, to amphitheaters. The list is endless of the things that can be provided as living memorials, and, I might add, with at least one in every price range.

If, as leaders in our communities, we fail to make the effort to convince our influential citizens, our various civic groups, Legion posts, and Chambers of Commerce of the wisdom of providing useful living memorials; if we fail to do our utmost to give thoughtful guidance to the honest sentiments of our grief-stricken friends in this direction, we shall indeed be guilty of a breach of faith with those we desire to honor. We must do everything in our power to make these memorials *living* symbols of their courage, spirit, and patriotic sacrifice. It would seem more suitable and logical to suppose that some things useful might live and do good as memorials in their names, long after more austere structures have become stained and are forgotten.

LIVING MONUMENTS
For All Our Boys

In memory of me, you wouldn't erect
A dreary stone that would reflect—
No thought of joy or living things,
Or hope, for which the whole world sings.

I ask that you go plant a tree
To cast a shadow cool, for me.
A tree to bless the weary earth,
Or any monument of vital worth!

In haunting memory, on marble cold,
I want no story of my valor told,
Forlorn and desolate, they stand for years,
Despair they bring, and lonely tears.

Instead, I beg you plan a place,
A playground—where children race,
Where laughter rings and children sing,
And mothers, there, their babies bring.

I want a woodland—dark and deep,
Where ferns, like sea-weed shadows creep,
A little lake—a bathing beach—
A happy place—in easy reach.

For city children, denied the joy
That I once knew, as a bare-foot boy.
Or (of man-made ice) a skating rink—
Are among the worth-while things, I think.

For all the boys—on sea or land,
For all the Flyers—who victory planned,
From the Spirit World—we unite our pleas—
For playgrounds—pools—and glorious trees!

No futile piles of stone to mar,
The landscape view—both near and far!
Dead monuments are but idle toys—
Give living things for our noble boys!

—*Millicent Easter*

Milwaukee Journal Photo

For three days last June Oklahoma City held its Eleventh Annual Recreation Festival. Many citizens subscribed to the slogan of the city's Park Department—"Save your tires, save your money, and build your health by going to your neighborhood park or playground for your recreation."

A Preview of Pleasure

By
CATHERINE SIMPSON
Acting Director of Recreation
Park Department
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

"STEP RIGHT THIS WAY, ladies and gents. Right this way. There's something for everyone, ladies and gents. Make your choice. Old or young, man or woman, boy or girl. Whatever you fancy, it's here for you!"

No, that isn't the barker at the midway of the Greatest Show on Earth. It isn't an invitation to investigate the two-headed calf or to pluck a hair from the bearded lady's hirsute appendage. As a matter of fact it isn't even a "real" quotation. It might be. It could be an invitation to Oklahoma City's Recreation Festival.

This festival marks the opening of the summer play programs in the park and playgrounds of Oklahoma City. It is held in June each year in order to show the people of the community what recreation facilities are available to them and to their children during the summer months. Oklahoma City believes that seeing is believing, that the "buyer" should have a chance to sample the wares before he takes them.

"Save your tires, save your money, build your health by going to your neighborhood park or playground for recreation" is the war slogan of the Recreation Division of Oklahoma City's Park Department. The whole city has gone out to put some "umph" behind the slogan.

The program for the three-day event shows the extent of imaginative planning that has gone into summer recreation activities. Here are a few of the varied items listed: doll show, sand modelling contest, aircraft exhibits, water festival, community sing, soap bubble contest, operetta, interpretative dancing. A "sports carnival" is a series of amateur boxing bouts. The usual games, active and quiet, are on the list.

The Art Center, Library, Historical Building, Municipal Zoo, and City Greenhouse and Conservatory offer special attractions during the festival days to make the citizen acquainted with their regular programs. Gallery tours of the permanent Oklahoma Art collection of painting at the Art Center; a "Book Festival" at the Library; a trip

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A Letter from England

DEAR SIR/MADAM:

It is with great interest that I learn through the *Reader's Digest* of September 1944, Overseas Edition for American Armed Forces, that you are organizing "Youth Centres" over there in America. Here in England (including Wales and Scotland, of course) our individual Town Councils, with the full support of the "ministerial men" concerned, have formed numerous Youth Centres in each large town and city. It is because of this perhaps strange or coincidental movement that I should like to correspond with some one perhaps the same age as myself (or thereabouts) on our Youth Centres, Recreational Centres, and our new Welcome Club here in Swindon whilst some one over there writes to tell me of your Centres in America—just one more handshake across that seemingly small expanse of ocean.

Now, let me introduce myself. My name is Ray Bennett. I am 21 years of age, five feet five inches tall, dark hair, dark eyes, and somewhat dark complexion. I weigh about eight stone, eleven pounds. In America that's 127 pounds. At present I am nearly at the end of a five year apprenticeship which is maintenance fitting and turning in the workshops of the carriage and wagon department of the Great Western Railway which has its original home here. Our working hours are from 8 A. M. Monday until 12 noon Saturday. In detail that means 8 A. M. until 7:30 P. M. each day with an hour out for dinner and ten minutes for tea. On Saturday we go in at 8 A. M. and finish at 12 o'clock noon until the following Monday morning. Of course, the young boys under sixteen aren't allowed to work overtime—that is after 5:30 P. M. Boys over sixteen and under eighteen years of age are allowed to work only three nights a week overtime. Boys, girls, men, and women over that age are supposed to work all four nights, but since the firewatching and Home Guard duties as well as the civil defense services have been relaxed we get one or two nights off by asking (nicely, mind you) our appropriate foreman. That is, people over eighteen years of age may finish at 5:30 P.M. of they wish, by asking.

Maybe as I go on scribbling this letter out to you, you will find that my English is apt to "slip" a little, so just at this point I think that I had better tell you about the education I have received. I started school when I was three years of age at an ordinary—what we call—elementary school. I stayed there until I was fourteen years old when I reached the top class of the school which was, by the way, Standard 8, and was second in class position and the proud possessor of a book prize worth seven shillings and sixpence. Before I actually left school to start work I had started Evening Institute or night school, taking Science, Mathematics, and English as my subjects. That was in 1937, the year in which I left school at the age of fourteen years, that being the recognized age of leaving.

To cut a long story short, I went to night school from 1937 until 1939. Then I fell ill with rheumatic fever which kept me out of circulation for nearly a year, three months in hospital. When I was well again in 1940, I went to night school again for a short while, but was interrupted—mostly by air-raid warnings. By the time that air-raid wardens and first-aid workers, messengers and so forth had left to report to their stations there wasn't enough boys to make a decent class—or enough teachers to take a class (for they had different air-raid jobs as well). Myself being a qualified first-aid worker was and am now in a First Aid Mobile Squad. Anyhow, night school carried on through the dreary winter, at the time when the Midlands were receiving uncalled for attention from the Germans, but at the same time a "feeling" prevailed throughout the younger generation that it was a waste of time attending these classes.

This brings me to my long awaited point. It is my belief that as far back as 1940 boys were deciding as well as girls not to go to night school but to "hang around" street corners and even in public houses. That is, they were hanging around places where beer and liquor is bought and (don't get me wrong) where here in England the chummiest or the certain class of people meet and perhaps play the old English game of skittles, or have a game of darts. Well, this decision of

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The writer of this letter lives at 153 Beatrice Street, Swindon, Wilts, England. At that address he would be very glad to receive first hand information from some of you teen-agers in America.

The Ideal Winter Sport for Everyone!

By ROLAND C. GEIST
Coach of Skating
Newtown High School
Long Island

We asked Mr. Geist, who has done so much to promote skating as well as bicycling in New York City, to tell you why skating is such a popular sport, and to give you from his long experience a little general information on the subject. Pointing out that skating has been an American sport for a long time, Mr. Geist says, "Let's continue to enjoy skating together on park lakes, rivers, and skating rinks."

TODAY ICE SKATING is a major winter sport. Here are a few of the reasons for this:

Skating is an active rather than spectator sport which appeals to both sexes and all ages. (People from three to ninety-three may enjoy it.) It may be pursued strenuously or moderately, and while it is primarily an outdoor sport, it may be enjoyed at indoor rinks the year round. With its group routines, pair skating, and dancing it is a social activity.

In its various branches skating offers an appeal to everyone. There is ice hockey, the football of the ice with its spills and thrills; speed skating for youth who enjoy fast moving rhythm; and figure skating — artistry on ice. And in spite of the speed which can be attained, skating stands low in the sport accident list.

To those who like to skate alone, the mastery of forty or more school figures offers a challenge which never loses interest, and individuals who meet this challenge successfully have the opportunity to make a career of skating.

As a final practical advantage, the expense of skating is low, since the upkeep of ice skates is practically nil, and lakes and rivers are usually free to the public while rink charges are reasonable.

Equipment

The selection of equipment is important. Well-meaning parents often buy children's skates a few sizes too large so that they may grow into them. This is a mistake, for the child will not be able to skate and will lose interest in the sport. The low priced combination skate and shoe sets are usually

This unusual figure skating scene was photographed at Grindelwald in the Bernese Oberland, Switzerland

Courtesy Official Information Bureau of Switzerland *Photo by R. Schudel*

not a good buy because the boots are often poorly made, give little support, and the riveted on blade will require frequent sharpening. Before you buy decide what type of skating you will enjoy—speed or figure; then purchase proper blades. If you intend to play hockey you will want to buy hockey skates.

It is preferable to buy the blades and boots separately. Custom made boots are best but they are very expensive. Stock skating boots are adequate for the average skater. The blades should be one piece steel for figure work or tubular construction for racing. Today skates are limited in supply so a good used blade may serve your purpose. Boots, new or second-hand, should be a snug fit like a glove. You should have wooden scabbards to protect the blades when walking over metal or stone.

Your skating costume is, of course, a personal matter. Speed skaters usually wear colored full-length tights in jersey with club emblem on the back. Hockey teams have regulation uniforms selected by the manager and team. A skater not connected with clubs or teams usually wears a short skirt and sweater if a woman, while a man usually wears a business suit.

Skating Clubs

People who enjoy doing things together often form a club, and ice skaters are no exception to this rule. Almost every rink in the United States has a club connected with it which has special sessions set aside for its members. The advantages of such clubs are many. The novice has an opportunity to meet and skate with more experienced skaters. Club sessions are less crowded than the regular public sessions. Low priced group lessons are sometimes offered to members. Most clubs have a special dance session that is most sociable and pleasant if the group is not so large that members cannot become acquainted with each other. Competitions are frequently arranged by the club.

FROM THE EARLY HISTORY OF SKATING

"Setting a date for the birth of skating is almost as simple as setting a date for the dawn of skiing. Both red letter days in the history of winter recreation are obscured in the smatterings of ancient history that have survived to this day.

"Eight hundred years ago skating was a flourishing pastime in many of the northern countries of Europe. Among the earliest proofs that Man had taken to the ice and was having a bit of fun for himself are: the *Edda,* an early collection of Icelandic literature that mentions skating, and this bit from the Fitz-Stephen *Chronicle of Merrie England* in the 12th century:

" 'When the great fenne or moore is frozen, many young men play on the yce, some, striding as wide as they may doe, slide swiftly . . . some tye bones to their feet and under their heeles, and shoving themselves by a little picked staffe, do slide as swiftly as a bird flyeth in the aire, or an arrow out of a crossbow.'

"Skating is not new!"—From *Skating,* by *Putnam* and *Parkinson.* A. S. Barnes and Co.

At the end of the rink skating season most clubs stage an ice carnival which is great fun for everybody. Occasionally a junior group may take care of the children of members with a special junior session.

Smaller communities, schools, and colleges might well organize ice skating clubs which bring members of the group together and make for a friendly feeling all around. However, where there are no rinks and one must depend upon nature to freeze the pond, there may be little opportunity to enjoy skating together, though roller skating at a rink may solve the problem since there are 4,000 or more rinks in the United States.

Several New York high schools have skating clubs that are popular. Over 400 students applied for membership in the club at Newtown High School where skating has always been a favorite sport with the boys and girls. The boys enjoy ice hockey and speed skating, and once a year those who have proved themselves the speediest skaters compete in the famous Silver Skates contest which ends in a great carnival at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Most of the girls and many of the boys enjoy figure skating.

Newtown is fortunate in being near the City Rink, a municipal rink charging only 22 cents admission, which is an ideal place for both racing and ice skating. The girls make their skating costumes in the sewing classes, talk about skating in their English classes, and learn how to buy and care for skates in their merchandising classes. During Christmas vacation a trip to Bear Mountain for winter sports is enjoyed by everyone. The entire trip costs only about $3.00 per person.

All students who are proficient in skating receive a letter known as "Skating N" or athletic award. Five or six faculty members have become interested in figure skating, and soon there will be a Newtown Faculty Figure Skating Club. The weekly skating sessions give students and teach-

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Shipyards and Playgrounds

By MARGARET M. ROMEO

WAR CAME to Vancouver, Washington, with a rush, a jolt, a bang. Ships had to be built—and fast. Men and women from all over the United States packed their *lares* and *penates,* their children, and their pets into whatever transportation was available and headed for Vancouver. In less than two years the city's population had been multiplied by five.

The Need

Vancouver, overnight, became a place of standing in line (when there was a place to stand), of being offered dozens of jobs but having to apply for a place to live. Stores could not supply the needs. The Salvation Army gave teachers a place to sleep. Defense plants sprang up all along the edge of town. Every swamp, every golf course, every parking lot was filled with rows of barrack-like apartments and open coal boxes. Children swarmed over the gravel paths looking for a place to play. What could be done with them? They were miles from school. Defense workers were riding three deep in the city busses. But even if there were enough transportation, how could a school system built for 4,182 children take care of 12,520? What would the children do after school while their mothers worked?

The first two of these questions were answered when emergency school busses provided the transportation and the schools squeezed the new pupils into vacant rooms, libraries, hallways. But no answer had been found for the hours of freedom to roam the streets, unhappy and uncared for.

This is the story of how Vancouver took three thousand children off those gravel paths and put them on playgrounds. Their parents had come to build ships, but the children wandered, bewildered and homesick, around the housing units. Many of them, unaccustomed to working mothers, hardly knew whether they were wanted or not.

"Where do you live?" Robert's teacher asked him.

"I live in Iowa," was the reply. "My apartment number is 217." For Robert and children like him something had to be done, a world had to be stabilized and that right quickly unless they were to be permanently scarred. A new day dawned for them first in the office of the Superintendent of Public Schools.

The Plan

The Superintendent viewed the situation with alarm perhaps, but without that hysteria that

The "men behind the men behind the footlights" aren't interested in play-acting, but they do enjoy some of the activities that go with it!

freezes action. He called his staff together and put the problem squarely before them. "If children cannot be cared for properly at home," he reasoned, "they should stay in school — an extended day school to give them play and rest, creative arts and athletics, a chance to follow their old interests and to learn new ones." Such a program would require money, workers, and equipment, but the teachers had taken the first step. They knew what was needed. Now they must go after it.

Business and industry were glad to cooperate. The shipyard authorities had learned from experience that when children are unhappy their parents are prone to pack their belongings and go "back East." Children loafing in the stores had created a real problem for the business men. Practical considerations were added to idealism as forces urging that a solution be found. School, business, and industry joined forces to form the Greater Vancouver Recreation Commission. A program was initiated to be financed by the Federal Government and carried on by the public schools aided by the housing authority and the city.

The most crying need in Vancouver was admittedly an extended day school for the younger children. But the teen-age group and the hard working parents needed recreation facilities almost as badly. Actually the three problems were one, and were attacked as such. Space was not an insoluble problem. Each housing project had a recreation building which could be used and the school buildings were available after 3:30 each afternoon. The government funds were sufficient, but workers were a real stumbling block. Everywhere in Vancouver trained and untrained help was at a premium. Aid came first from an unexpected source. Many out-of-state teachers were applying for positions. Those who could not meet the Washington state certification requirements were put to work in the extension day school. Housewives and regular teachers agreed to work on a part-time basis. A census was made of the faculty wives, and those qualified were urged to help. Small children were no excuse because other faculty wives were drafted to take care of them. Leisure time became unpatriotic in Vancouver. Letters to people whose names were on old lists of teachers' agencies and college placement bureaus brought workers from all parts of the country. At last the program was in full swing with a staff of seventy full-time and a hundred and eight part-time workers.

The problem seemed to be solved. But more people came to build ships. The schools went on double shifts, using the classrooms from dawn until dark. Still more shipbuilders came, and the schools even held double shift classes in several recreation centers. Somehow, in spite of all this, the Commission carried on its activities. The quarters were cramped, but they had to serve until summer vacation made the school buildings available once more. If a ping-pong ball hit a young artist's easel, or the glee club drowned out the nature study class, it was all part of the fun.

The Results

Children are no longer swarming over the gravel paths of the housing areas. They are busy play-acting or building model airplanes, dancing, singing, and making things. There is some kind of activity going on at all times from 9 to 5 Monday through Friday, and from 9 till noon on Saturday for children from four years of age through junior high school. They choose their own activities, but they must bring parent's consent blanks in order to make it possible for the directors to anticipate numbers and interests. Even so they sometimes "get in a jam." One day, for instance, a circus came to town. Some children brought money and some did not, but they all wanted to see the elephants and the clowns. Those who had brought their money saw them. The others took a walk to the veterinary hospital to see pink-eyed rabbits and baby kittens. The doctor operated on a brown dog "without hurting it," and told them to come again.

The program is highly diversified and far-reaching. It includes athletics of every kind, music, dancing, theater projects, model airplane clubs, cooking classes. Vancouver points with pride to the results of all this. Merchants know — with relief—that their stores are no longer full of wandering children with no place to go. Teachers know that their pupils no longer miss the last bus to "poke around town till Mother gets off the shift." ("I have to hurry to the recreation," David explained, "I'm making a clay pig for my brother.") Wanda's mother knows that her child no longer cries because she is too crippled to play hop-scotch. She is much too busy singing in the glee club. The Juvenile Court Officer knows that the year's cost for making three thousand children safe and contented was seven cents a day per child.

The Greater Vancouver Recreation Commission is rapidly reaching its goal of making Robert and David and Wanda and all the others who have left their homes in Iowa or Arkansas feel "at home" in Vancouver for the duration.

Give Them Something to Do

By FLORENCE JANSSON
Arlington, Virginia

Courtesy Lancaster, Pa., Recreation Association

Boys like these found a real friend in Patrolman Cowan

PATROLMAN OLIVER A. COWAN was very serious about his appointment to the Metropolitan Police Force of Washington, D. C. This was no matter of so many hours each day to be filled with routine duties. It was a trust reposed in him by the community, a challenge to his citizenship and to his ingenuity. He was a young man with a burning need to find ways of helping boys and girls to grow positively and creatively rather than become drags on the community in which they lived.

Patrolman Cowan, born in Arkansas, educated in high schools in Cleveland, Ohio and Washington, D. C., and — for three hard-won years — at Howard University, entered the third decade of his life aware of the full meaning symbolized by the uniform he wore. He was assigned to a precinct where he found hundreds of boys and girls in various stages of social maladjustment. They were not inherently bad youngsters. They had the normal amount of energy and curiosity and thirst for adventure that is bound up in every boy and girl. They were seeking—quite unself-consciously—for something dynamic and lively and maybe a little daring. But wartime Washington is a busy city. Parents are often overworked; some are irresponsible. Schools are handicapped by a shortage of facilities and trained workers. Teachers are struggling against handicaps to meet standardized requirements too general to take into consideration the personal problems of each individual child. So what started as a harmless excursion into mildly forbidden fields might end, lacking the necessary checks and balances, as serious delinquency.

It was, perhaps, no wonder that Officer Cowan, studying the particular problems of his area "learned from business men about the mischief of idle boys, and from schools . . . about truancy."

The young officer saw clearly the wide gate and the open road leading from those early truancies among youngsters who did not somehow fit into the pattern of the school curriculum and from the mischief of idle hands to well-established delinquency records. He was naturally well equipped to attack the problem, for his friendliness and enthusiasm quickly commanded the loyalty of the neighborhood boys and girls. He became their friend. (In a very real sense he is making a career of friendship.) This fitting of personal qualities to an urgent need of the times gives an orderly pattern to his career.

Oliver Cowan knew the need to arouse in the potential delinquent a justifiable sense of personal worth and a voluntary acknowledgment on his own level of his obligations to a nebulous social body. This would give the youngster at loose emotional or psychological ends the assurance and anchorage he sorely needs. Cowan knew from his own experience the sense of satisfaction that comes from self-generated accomplishment. He worked out a plan of campaign whose soundness has been demonstrated by its success.

He began by believing in the neighborhood boys and girls, and it was this confidence in their personal worth that aroused their voluntary respect for law and order. True, there were many times when he had to exercise his official authority, but he did it with a natural understanding of the psy-

chological factors in the problem with which he was concerned. He knew how to be firm without being harsh and unfriendly.

It would be too much to say that he gained immediate response from his whole area in his efforts to work with young people. Some of the youngsters evaded him with a wayward shrewdness that might have discouraged a man of less human understanding. But he kept forging ahead and consolidating his gains as he went along.

He had a way of turning up at neighborhood ball games after work, looking on with genuine interest, applauding occasionally, and talking with one or another of the boys in the lusty language of the diamond. The young people came to know this officer of the law as one of themselves. Perhaps the law was not at enmity with them all after.

It was not long until they identified themselves more formally with the law and with civic order by organizing under the friendly young officer's leadership a Junior Police Club. This is an extra-official undertaking, a "spare-time" development growing out of Cowan's conviction that what these junior citizens of the community need is patient understanding of their immaturity, and sympathetic guidance on their own level of interest.

Officer Cowan began by discussing his ideas, in their own juvenile terms, with two neighborhood boys. Didn't they think it would be a fine idea to have their own junior citizens' organization with their own junior police corps, a club in which they could gain understanding of community laws, and personal relationships to local government? They accepted the idea. After all, Officer Cowan had entered into their games and problems. Why shouldn't they enter into his field of special interests? It would be fun. There was a kind of sportsmanship about it, sportsmanship on a civic basis with personal responsibilities translated into simple terms adapted to juvenile understanding. It explained a lot of things about law and order that they had not clearly understood before. These were not represssive, unfriendly terms at all and they were not remote or impersonal as they had sometimes seemed. Everyone, even they, had a personal share in community life, and personal responsibilities to society. The thought had in it a strong appeal to the sense of individual worth, and it brought out a voluntary desire to participate consciously in community betterment. From this nuclear beginning has grown the Junior Police Club of the Thirteenth Precinct as it is today.

"It is their club," says Officer Cowan. "They carry on all the activities and choose their own group leaders." With a skillful minimum of supervision he lends direction and order to their spontaneous proceedings, suggesting new lines of endeavor from time to time, and keeping the club's ideal for personal integrity in the forefront.

His simple formula, "Give them something to do," is put into practical operation in the Junior Police Club. The task of maintaining an organization of around 700 boys and girl auxiliaries is "something to do" on a considerable scale.

The central organization has a municipal pattern. A mayor is duly elected by the voting constituency according to traditional democratic processes. The proud sponsor tells of one boy recently drafted into the Navy from his post as mayor. A quiet, unassuming youth, the ex-mayor entered his boot training in the same spirit of social cooperation that had marked his administrative record. This is not just an abstract, over-enthusiastic opinion; it has concrete support in the fact of the young sailor's early promotion in rank to apprentice petty officer. Officer Cowan is proud of a certificate naming this boy as honor man of his company for the period of training completed February 7, 1944.

In this juvenile civic unit the free press is represented by *Youthtown News,* with its various departments giving journalistic outlet to the contributors.

A social-minded business man in the neighborhood has concretely expressed his endorsement of the club by giving it the use of a two room office in which to carry on its considerable administrative work. Here the various group leaders, roughly analogous to officers of municipal government, meet to work out their particular assignments.

Cowan points out that the very creditable posters on the walls are club products, that in fact the whole undertaking is essentially self-sustaining. It moves along under its own power, the cooperative achievement of the whole membership.

Local branches have been formed under the central organization, each with a captain and a staff of assistants. The spread of administrative duties is evidence that Cowan consistently translates into practice his formula, "Give them something to do."

Not all the activities are confined to administration by any means. Creative and play groups are important parts of the program. These accommodate a wide range of interests, including foot-

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At Florida's War Recreation Conference

During the past few years Florida has made such rapid strides in the development of the recreation movement that we have thought our readers would be interested in having some extracts from the report of the Third Annual Florida War Recreation Conference held last November in Miami Beach. The conference was sponsored by the State Defense Council in cooperation with the Recreation Division, FSA, the United Service Organizations, Inc., the National Recreation Association, and the Florida Recreation Workers' Association.

By JAMES E. ROGERS
National Recreation Association

"WE MUST THINK of recreation in terms of the whole community. Only by an all-out unified effort on the part of both private and public agencies can the needs of all be adequately met."

This was the theme which carried through the three-day War Recreation Conference at Miami Beach, Florida, where representatives from Florida cities met for the third year to discuss their problems. Again and again they reiterated the thought that the task is one of community organization for recreation with all facilities, groups, and programs mobilized in the total service.

Recreation is a community service with emphasis on service in many fields for many groups. Recreation is fundamental in the life of the individual and of the community. To the individual it is an ingredient in the balanced ration of life; to the community it is a basic function along with health, welfare, and education—a fundamental responsibility of the local community. Its importance has been recognized by national, state and local groups, and by private agencies which are making an essential contribution to the total program.

A priority in wartime on the war front, industrial front and home front, recreation is an essential in peacetime. In this transition period all the assets of wartime recreation must be carried over to peacetime.

While ever-present community recreation needs and problems such as children's playgrounds and adequate support for public recreation were recognized, the Conference also stressed such topics as the Contribution of Private Agencies in War and Peace; Servicemen's and Women's Recreation; Industrial Recreation; Rural Recreation; Negro Recreation; Youth Recreation; the Importance of Volunteers; Recreation in Small Communities; Recreation as a Profession; Recreation in Housing Projects; Church Recreation; and similar topics.

Servicemen's Center at Lakeland, Florida, formerly the Community Tourist Building

The Conference recognized the importance of leadership. "The total task of recreation for the whole community in the transition period is a community service through community organization that demands the efforts of all of us in a united team if we are to meet adequately the many tasks and responsibilities we face today and in the future, especially during the period of transition.

"To meet this challenge demands experienced professionals and trained volunteers; hence the problem of the training, placement, and recruiting of volunteers and paid leaders is ever present and of immediate importance."

Highlights of the Conference

From the various discussions at the Conference came many significant statements regarding problems, needs, and developments.

Recreation in Florida. For three years the Florida Recreation Workers' Association has been working to meet the need for servicemen's recreation, for an adequate program for youth, for migratory and industrial recreation, and for rural people and Negroes. Forty-two local Negro recreation committees are at work and a State Recreation Conference for Negroes has been held, with a second scheduled for December 4-6, 1944, at Tallahassee. Negro recreation is part of the wartime program and will be expanded in postwar planning.

Continuing Services to Men and Women in the Armed Forces. Recreation will make rapid advance in the postwar period as it did after World War I. The efforts made to provide recreation for servicemen and women have helped convince civilians of the value of recreation and the need for cooperative effort. Returning servicemen want community contacts; they are looking forward to home life, church life, and all the normalcies of life. The home town must be made attractive and interesting to men and women as they return to civilian life. The provision of community recreation is one of the best means for accomplishing this.

Meanwhile, until the end of the war, interest in the provision of recreation for servicemen must be maintained in the following ways:

By giving all local organizations a share in planning
By assigning the responsibility and delegating authority for definite and specific services
By giving credit to individuals and groups for achievement
By keeping in close touch with military and naval officers for cooperation and guidance
By offering servicemen and women attractive choices for varied and flexible activities
By making the service centers a hub around which center the services of the community to the armed forces
By seeing to it that there are sufficient resources in every community to meet any need which the community recognizes as important.

Recreation for Industrial Workers. American industry, with its outstanding achievements in wartime production, has had to face new problems arising from the industrialization of cities. After the war will come problems of reconversion and of unemployment. American communities must be prepared to expand their activities in the industrial field by securing adequate consideration of the problem, a mutual sharing of responsibility by all agencies, a high degree of cooperation, and adequate planning for the future.

Florida is one of the states which is experiencing the problems brought about by the expansion of industrial plants. Among the cities affected are Jacksonville, Tampa, Pensacola, and Panama City. Expanded governmental activities with increased civilian employment have affected recreational needs in Key West and Miami. Smaller communities such as Fernandina and Port St. Joe have been faced with labor difficulties attributed in part to inadquate recreational activities.

Industrial workers are at the present time being served through recreation programs financed by industrial plants, by public recreation departments, by private agencies such as the Y.M.C.A., USO, and Boy Scouts, and by Federal Housing Authorities who provide facilities and assist in securing leadership.

It was recommended by the Conference that the Recreation Division of the State Defense Council and the Florida Recreation Workers' Association appoint a subcommittee to plan for coordinated programs of recreation for industrial workers. Any plan made should be part of existing plans for recreation so that community ties of workers in industry will be strengthened.

Teen-Age Services. An outstanding development during 1943-44 has been the creation of recreation programs and centers for youth.

The plea of the Conference was for a positive rather than a negative approach to the problem. Youth voiced its own desires. It wants to do its part, but asks for adult guidance and help in problems of financing and of securing proper locations and equipment for centers.

A youth center, it was felt, should include a lounge, canteen, dance floor, and game room. An important requirement is a broad, varied program which must be maintained after the war.

Rural Recreation. If recreation is good for city dwellers, it is also good for country folks. Rural recreation is a problem to be handled by people who understand rural needs. Many state agencies are interested, and much is being done in Florida to meet the needs through churches, schools, grange, 4-H Clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, and other organizations. State and county parks have an important part to play.

The great need in rural districts is for leadership which will take responsibility for mobilizing and utilizing all existing resources.

Recreation in Smaller Communities. All small communities have within their boundaries groups

(Continued on page 546)

The Chicago Recreation Conference

Among its many other accomplishments, the Chicago Recreation Commission has held ten annual recreation conferences

THE ANNUAL Chicago Recreation Conference was held in the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, on November 22, 1944. Five hundred people from Chicago and the Middle West came together to discuss their mutual problems, to hear speakers, to see—in exhibits—examples of projects or work in progress.

At the luncheon meeting, Mayor Kelly honored eighteen members of the Chicago Recreation Commission who have served during the full ten years of the life of the Commission. Following these citations, Dr. Philip L. Seman, chairman of the Commission, previewed "The Years Ahead," presenting the recreational needs of the approximately 15,000,000 men and women who will have served in the armed forces a large portion of whom will return to civilian life, "some partially incapacitated and all different from what they were when they went in." Industrial workers, too, some 20,000,000 of whom are actually now engaged in war industry, will require special recreational planning in the postwar period.

Dr. Seman also put before the Conference a problem which will increasingly concern all recreation workers—that of recreational planning for the more than 13,000,000 people over sixty years of age, of whom more than 9,000,000 are sixty-five years and over. Statistics show, he said, that we are becoming increasingly a nation of elders, and recreational planning must take account of this fact. This important group of people, many of whom will retire from employment with the close of the war, will require increasing and different kinds of recreation than are now generally offered. Games suitable for adult years, adult clubs, parent-children clubs, and an expansion of cultural recreation activities may be part of the answer. Another part may be the preparation for the future old age group by an inculcation in youth and young adults today of hobby interests, cultural interests, and other recreational habits which will provide for their wise use of leisure time throughout their lifetime.

These and other needed services will require, Dr. Seman pointed out, a great expansion in recreation leadership. "Schools and colleges should undertake to train leadership for this leisure time in far greater numbers than is now the case. There should be in-service training for leaders now employed, and there must develop an increased appreciation of recreation leadership as a vitally necessary profession. To this latter end recreation leaders must begin to demand the respect due their profession, and the public must also begin to demand more and better leaders.

"In addition to professionally trained leadership, increasing attention must be given to lay leadership both as emergency and temporary aids in recreation agencies and as long-term assistants to professional recreation leaders. Opportunities for training should also be given to persons not expecting to lead public groups but desirous of directing intelligently their children's home recreation."

(Continued on page 556)

At the Chicago Conference they discussed the recreational needs of older people

Philadelphia Council of Social Agencies

What They Say About Recreation

"CHILDREN NEED ENJOYMENT — just plain fun."—*Ruth E. Murphy* in *Religious Education.*

"People will be amused and they will play at something. This is the necessary recreational element in life. But how they will be amused and at what they will play depends upon the patterns of social behavior that are being formed in any given community." — *H. R. Horne* in *This New Education.*

"Leisure, like food, may contribute to our happiness and well-being, or, ignorantly and gluttonously used, may destroy us."—*Owen D. Young.*

"I want youth to have leisure to use and to be taught how to use it in order that later they will not regret having abused it."—*Frances Slade.*

"It is our business . . . to create the kind of play life for children that makes wholesome, sound living not only possible but natural and easy."—From *Play: The Child's Response to Life,* by *Altschuler and Heinig.*

"The art of living is one and indivisible. It is not a composite art made by adding the art of play to the art of work, or the art of leisure to the art of recreation. . . . It becomes an art when work and play, labor and leisure, mind and body, education and recreation are governed by a single vision of excellence and a continuous passion for achieving it."—*L. P. Jacks.*

"Know a country's music, and you know its history, its customs, and its people." — *Spanish Proverb.*

"Our principal interest now is in winning the war, but when the war is over there will be many, many things to think about. Among these recreation will find more serious obligations than ever before. Now, while the war is raging, and even as we attend to many urgent tasks, we must also plan for the future."—*Dr. Philip Seman.*

"Grown men and women should occasionally recapture the spirit of childhood to offset periods of serious effort. . . . It is play they need in their leisure time as well as creative hobbies and purposeful activities." — *Josephine L. Rathbone* in *Relaxation.*

"Get acquainted with a firefly. It is the shortest way to become acquainted with a star."—*Robert P. Tristram Coffin.*

"Blessed is the man who is trained not only for work but for play . . . not only for labor but for leisure . . . who has stored within himself a number of simple skills and interests in games, handcrafts, music, drama, literature, nature, contemplation, comradeship; all these upon which to draw for leisure hour happiness."—*Dorothy Enderis.*

"It is vital to find the way to balance suffering with intense joy—then life will be full and complete. Sometimes the interplay of suffering and joy, like shadow and sunshine, make a vibrant, rich life out of which can grow the highest in art and music."—*Leopold Stokowski.*

"How shall we play? Let it be with freedom, with as little regimentation as possible. Let it be expressive of fundamental, natural urges, desires, and interests of human life."—*L. H. Weir.*

"If boys and girls can learn to play together in a normal, wholesome way; if girls can acquire skills that will give joy throughout life; if some headway is made in the fine art of getting along with people; if tolerance and a genuine respect for others is the by-product, then a leader may feel that recreation in her club has been successful."—*Mollie H. Conn* in *It Pays to Play.*

"A young girl should never play. She should weep much and meditate on her sins." — Spoken by a learned man in medieval Europe and quoted by *Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick.*

"We now believe it is much better for the grass to become yellow under the children's feet than to grow green over their graves."—*Howard C. Hill.*

"Our way of living together in America is a strong but delicate fabric. It is made up of many threads woven over many centuries by the patience and sacrifice of countless liberty-loving men and women."—*Wendell L. Willkie.*

Recreation—Glamourized!

By LOUISE and JACOB ADLER
New York City

GLAMOUR is preferred when Juvenile House goes social. The best of the teen-age canteens draw unto themselves the allure and the imagination of commercialized clubs. This means that decorations, entertainment, soft drink bar, juke box or orchestra have a prominent part in the program. Yet they are not in themselves the program of the community center's canteen. They are, in a sense, the frosting on the cake. It's pretty and it's tempting and it's nice, but it would collapse without a solid underpinning of sports and games. The sports are not competitive like basketball, but socializing like volley ball, with the teams taken from the general group on the spur of the moment. Quiet and active games are ready all the time, so that the moment a member enters there is something to do.

The canteen is a socializing experience, and into the ordinary dance is woven the party idea. This

(Continued on page 557)

Courtesy "You Saw It in Seventeen"

Wartime Trends in Recreation

By MARTIN H. NEUMEYER
The University of Southern California

RECREATION IN AMERICA has undergone many changes. According to Dulles,[1] the early settlers detested idleness, yet even these hard-working people had some leisure. They developed tavern sports, husking bees, fairs, races, shooting matches, barn dances, and spent considerable time hunting and fishing, also drinking and gambling. However, for several centuries social life remained relatively simple and popular diversions conformed to familiar patterns. The nineteenth century registered new developments, especially physical education, spectator sports, the theater, the circus, and fashion fads. The cow towns and mining camps of the new West were known for their rough-and-ready life, with excessive drinking, gambling, and sometimes pistol shooting. The city was the dynamic center of new leisure and of innovations in entertainment, but the farm and countryside did not remain untouched by the newer forms of recreation.

Three new inventions that revolutionized recreation—the automobile, the motion picture, and the radio—came into prominence in the early part of the twentieth century. Commercial amusements expanded rapidly, outstripping community forms of recreation. At the same time, the playground, according to Rainwater,[2] developed from the simple sand garden of 1885 into a unique American institution, with indoor and outdoor facilities open to all groups the year round, with trained leaders and a complex program of directed activities, and with more clearly defined standards. Now the movement is national in scope, including rural areas as well as cities, with emphasis on recreation rather than play, with a program that is more closely integrated with education, and with a fuller acceptance of recreation as a public function.[3]

During the latter part of the 1920's the American people were spending ten billion dollars a year for recreation,[4] including nearly three and a half billion dollars for automobile touring and pleasure use of cars, and nearly two and a quarter billion dollars for commercial amusements. The bulk of the expenditure was for traveling and for commercial recreation. The growth of parks and playgrounds, the greater use of outdoor life for recreation, the increase of sports and games, and greater social organization in the field of leisure were other significant developments. During the depression of the 1930's, when there was a depletion of financial resources and an increase of leisure time, home activities increased extensively.[5] Outside activities increased slightly, especially those of a social and cultural nature, but commercial amusements suffered a noticeable decline. Since 1940 the war has produced profound changes in the use of leisure.

Main Types of Recreation

In a broad sense recreational activities, at least from the standpoint of organization, may be broadly classified into three, or possibly four, main types, with subdivisions thereof: (1) the spontaneous and semi-organized, as found in homes and in

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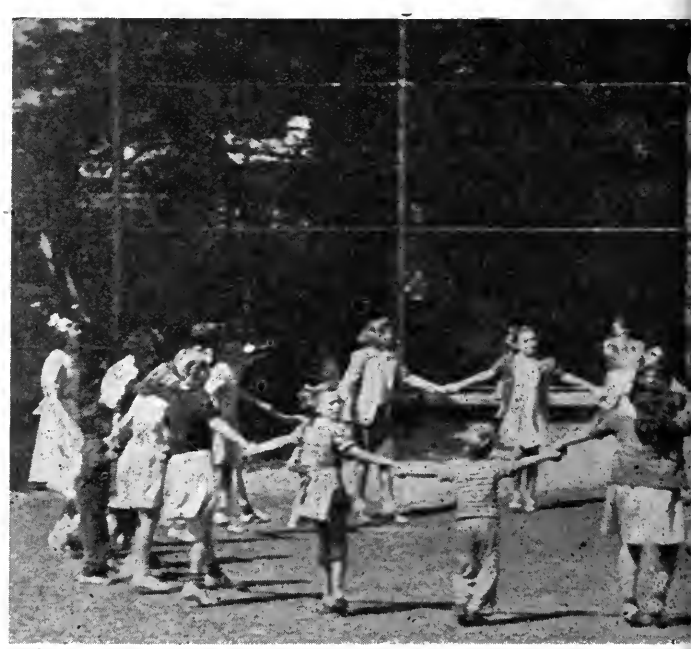


1 Foster R. Dulles, *America Learns to Play*, 1940.

2 Clarence E. Rainwater, *The Play Movement in the United States*, 1922. Traces the origin, stages, transitions, and trends of the playground movement.

3 George Hjelte, *The Administration of Public Recreation*, 1940.

4 Jesse F. Steiner, *Americans at Play*, 1933.

5 *Leisure Hours of 5000 People*, National Recreation Association, 1934.

informal groups, and the recreation provided by voluntary organizations, principally for members, such as athletic and social clubs, fraternal orders, labor organizations, and similar groups; (2) the commercial enterprises organized for profit to provide amusement and entertainment, principally for spectators, or to deal in commodities required in leisure; and (3) the governmental and non-governmental forms of community recreation. Much of our leisure is spent in informal ways, such as listening to the radio, reading, talking, visiting, entertaining others, and in the pursuit of various hobbies and pastimes. The greatest amount of money is expended on commercial amusements. The communal forms of recreation are usually the most constructive with active participation and creative or recreative uses of leisure designed to enrich personality.

Listening to the radio seems to be the most outstanding form of leisure activity today. With 912 standard broadcasting stations and over 57,000,000[6] receivers in the United States alone, the American public turns to the radio for entertainment, news, and enlightenment. At least 32,500,000 homes are equipped with one or more receivers each. The total listening has increased rapidly since the beginning of the war. The most popular types of programs are drama, audience participation, music, and news. All of the most popular individual programs stress entertainment.

Reading, which was so prominent as a leisure activity during the depression,[7] has declined somewhat during recent years. The drop is mostly among adults, for children and young people are using the library as much as they ever did, and sometimes more. Calls for books dealing with war, including war fiction, and those dealing with postwar planning exceed all other demands. . . . Books, maps, and atlases dealing with Latin America, Russia, China, and India have enjoyed a vogue for several years. . . . There is a sustained demand for technical books, and practical reading is fairly common. The reading of light novels and nonfiction purely for entertainment has dropped. Children read books on war subjects, especially those on air fighters and aviation, as well as *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Call of the Wild,* which children have always liked.

Commercial amusements are again gaining in popularity. Motion picture theaters continue to be the leading commercial amusement centers in America, with a total estimated weekly attendance of approximately 90,000,000. Bowling alleys have been popular for several years, dance halls are crowded, and other commercial concerns report gains.

re-directed with
d new develop-
ded, but in war
go on dancing!

6 1944 *Broadcasting Yearbook.*

Courtesy American School Board Journal

It is exceedingly valuable to be able to find in one article information about the various developments — under private, public, and Federal auspices — which have made this wartime period so significant for the recreation movement as a whole.

Dr. Neumeyer has made an important contribution in his comprehensive summary which appeared in the May-June 1944 issue of *Sociology and Social Research.* Extracts from Dr. Neumeyer's article are reprinted here by permission.

Recreation for Servicemen

The most noticeable trends in recreation pertain to the activities in behalf of servicemen and women, and to a lesser extent the programs for war workers. There are also some signs of expansion of recreation for the civilians not identified directly with the war effort. This is particularly true in areas where citizens have become aware of juvenile neglect and of the rising tide of delinquency.

During World War I the federal government, under the personal direction of President Woodrow Wilson, organized the Council of National Defense, with a comprehensive network of state

7 Compare *Leisure Hours of 5000 People.*

Recreation for servicemen and women has been an outstanding development in the war period, and clubs similar to that in Orlando, Florida, have sprung into existence everywhere

and local community councils of defense.[8] The National Recreation Association, then the Playground and Recreation Association of America, in cooperation with the Council of National Defense promoted the War Camp Community Service, which organized the social and recreation resources of over 650 communities near military centers and war industry districts. The service organizations, such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the Young Men's Christian Association, provided recreation for servicemen both at home and abroad. While they conducted united financial campaigns and cooperated in other ways, they functioned more or less independently without a thoroughly integrated program.

Today the recreation needs of servicemen and women, and to a lesser extent of war workers, are provided chiefly by three types of organized systems: (1) the recreation facilities and services provided directly by the personnel of the armed forces, mostly in military centers; (2) the work of the United Service Organizations (USO), together with affiliated agencies, and the American Red Cross; and (3) community agencies, both public and private, not directly affiliated with the other two types of services.

The Athletic and Recreation Branch, Special Services Division, United States Army, has constructed recreation halls, theaters, libraries, company playrooms, and other facilities, and has developed a program of welfare and recreation services for men in training camps, at island bases, in task, and on army transports. The United States Navy, through the recreation section of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, maintains somewhat similar services as does the United States Marine Corps.[9] Wherever possible, the services go with the men. For instance, the Army has prepared various kits for recreation, including athletic, music, library, motion picture, handcraft, and other supplies. Short-wave radio programs are broadcast for the benefit of troops overseas, and transcriptions of other programs are made available to them. Motion pictures and theatricals are taken to the servicemen wherever they are in sufficient numbers. To carry on the recreation services, the Army alone has 5,000 trained personnel and 10,000 enlisted men.[10]

The American Red Cross is the authorized civilian agency to provide most of the recreation, as well as other forms of services in Army and Navy hospitals. The hospitalized person with enforced leisure, and with the additional strain of illness and the accompanying worry, needs relaxation and rejuvenation that generally come from recreation. The recreation equipment consists of buildings or floors, varying in sizes, with auditoriums and stages, library and reading facilities, writing places, lounging and guest rooms, and staff quarters. The activities are adjusted to individual needs and are usually an integral part of the medical-social service program.[11]

The United Service Organizations (USO) represents the joint efforts of six organizations[12] to

8 An unpublished manuscript summarizing the publications and other significant material pertaining to the "Organization of the Community Councils of Defense by the Federal Government—World War I" has been prepared by Edward L. Burchard, Chicago Recreation Commission.

9 See Fred K. Koehler, "Services for Men in the Armed Forces," *Social Service Review*, Vol. XVI, September, 1942.

10 Statement by Col. Theodore P. Bank, Chief, Athletic and Recreation Branch, Special Services Division, U. S. Army. See *Proceedings* of the Ninth Annual Chicago Recreation Conference, November 12, 1943.

11 See Carolyn J. Nice, "Recreation in Army and Navy Hospitals," RECREATION, Vol. XXXVII, July, 1943.

12 Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., National Catholic Community Service, Salvation Army, Jewish Welfare Board, and National Travelers Aid Association.

promote and provide services of a religious, social, and recreational character for members of the armed forces. Except for the USO-Camp Shows, Inc., and with minor exceptions, the primary responsibility of the USO is to serve members of the armed forces outside military reservations when off duty and on leave, and in some areas of war industries where special services are required. The main operations are recreation, entertainment, hostel accommodation, education, and welfare. In addition, religious services are conducted in clubhouses, station lounges, information centers, hostels, and mobile units.

The USO operates where the Army and Navy permit it to operate. Thus far, the services have been confined to the Western Hemisphere, except for the USO-Camp Shows, Inc., which has gone overseas. The American Red Cross carries on overseas duties. The USO and the American Red Cross have coordinated the services, both in camps and outside camps, and they operate jointly in some centers.[13]

The war developed so rapidly that many communities were unprepared to take care of the large influx of servicemen and women, war workers, and their families. The federal government set up several agencies to assist state and local groups to organize for defense, welfare, and recreation needs, of which the Office of Civilian Defense and the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, both Federal Security Agency divisions, were outstanding. The Office of Civilian Defense organized state and local defense councils, or war councils as they are called in some areas, for the purpose of defense and welfare, of which local recreation committees are important units.[14] The Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services likewise was authorized to set up local recreation groups. By Executive Order (No. 9338, dated April 29, 1943) this Office became the Office of Community War Service, with a Division of Recreation to carry on the recreation function through field representatives in twelve regions and three territories. They render technical consultation service at any stage in the planning of recreation facilities and programs, chiefly by helping communities to help themselves or by assisting them to get aid in the form of funds, facilities, services, and leadership.

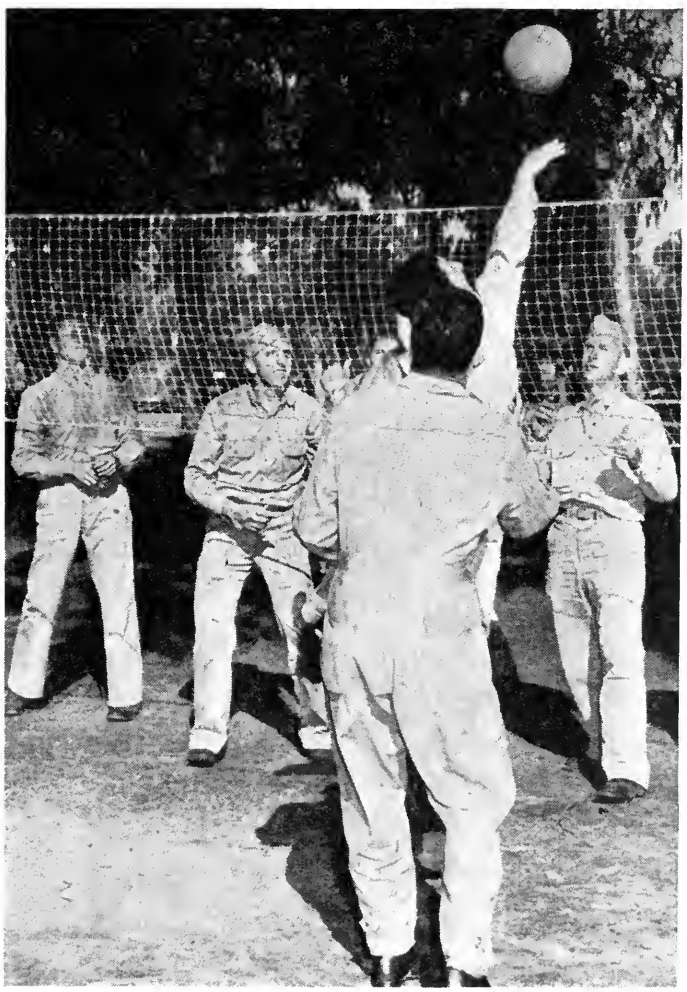
Under the Lanham Act, the Federal Works Administration was given authority to endorse the release of funds for grants to communities for the construction, maintenance, and operation of recreation facilities for armed forces and war workers when it is demonstrated that the need cannot be met by other public or private funds.

Industrial Recreation

There has been a "tremendous increase in interest

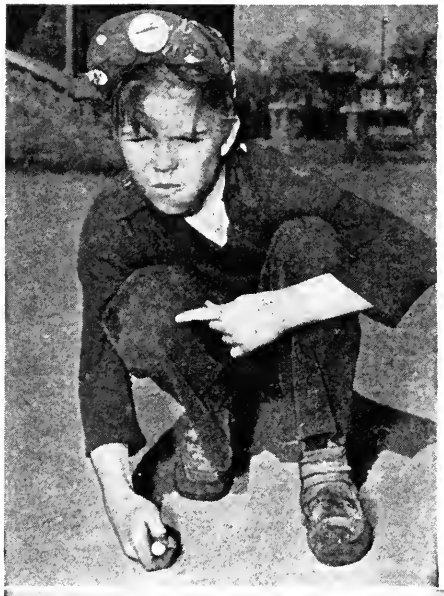
13 Joint statement of the American Red Cross and the United Service Organizations.

14 *Recreation in Wartime: A Manual for Recreation Committees of Local Defense Councils,* Office of Civilian Defense, May, 1943. This is one of a series of manuals for local Defense Council committees in the field of Civilian War Services.



Sports and athletics — only one of the many varied forms of recreation being provided for men in the armed services

Courtesy Recreation Commission, Long Beach, Calif.



In spite of the lack of trained personnel and adequate equipment, and in the face of tremendous difficulties, every effort has been made to provide the civilian populations of our cities with the recreation activities necessary to relieve wartime tensions and strains. Such programs as that promoted by the Minneapolis Park Department are doing much to help keep life normal for children and adults.

Photos by Walter Dahlberg *Courtesy Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners*

in industrial recreation, displayed by employers, employees, and labor union groups."[15] The "swing" and "graveyard" shifts are of special concern, as reported by various organizations. Closely tied up with the industrial question are the need for and interest in child care, both all-day and after-school, of which recreation is an important part.[16]

Use of Schools

An increase in the use of school facilities, both indoor and outdoor, for community recreation is a promising trend. School boards have registered a definite interest in this movement. The High School Victory Corps is making progress, as reported by the United States Office of Education, especially in *Education for Victory.* The United States Office of Civilian Defense through

15 Reported by Virginia Musselman, Correspondence and Consultation Service, National Recreation Association, who also indicated some of the other trends reported in this paper.

16 *Recreation and Other Activities in the All-Day School Program,* Leaflet No. 7, U.S. Office of Education, 1943.

Another important development has been the provision of recreation for war workers and their families. A worker from the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department organized play activities for these children and other residents of the Ramona Gardens Housing Project.

its Citizens Service Corps has established the Junior Citizens Service Corps, giving children a chance to participate more directly in the national defense work.

Teen-Age Centers

Teen-age clubs have been sponsored by various adult groups, and some have sprung up independent of adult leadership. They are self-motivated groups, allowing greater participation by the young people themselves than is true in more formally organized clubs. However, often there is a lack of planned programs, with the members doing pretty much what they please. Dancing is one of the main activities. Teen centers of the "dry night club" variety are springing up under various types of sponsorship, some of which are loosely organized and may disappear soon, while others may lead to more planned programs and may become permanently established. The Youth Hostel movement has apparently suffered a decline throughout the world, except in Great Britain.

Activities of Churches and Other Groups

Churches have expanded their recreation programs for servicemen and women, also for war workers and their families. Local church groups do a considerable amount of entertaining, both in the church and in the homes of members. National church bodies have been particularly sensitive to the problems of Americans on the move.

The national group work agencies have adjusted their programs to provide more time in their recreation schedule for special groups. In addition to the work in connection with the USO and other war service agencies, seven youth-serving agencies have formed the Associated Youth-Serving Organizations for the purpose of extending greater service to young people. At the local level there are increasing interagency cooperation and joint activity. Day camping is one of the best examples of this.

Because of the demand for participation in the war effort, recreation has sometimes been sacrificed in the interest of community service and education in international friendship. The rise of juvenile delinquency has been given special consideration, but there is a question in the minds of leaders as to how far character-building groups should go in dealing with delinqency.

Home play seems to be on the increase, as evidenced by the increased inquiry for material to aid families in providing their own recreation. As gas rationing continues, it is expected that this trend will become increasingly more pronounced. Closely associated with this trend is the increase of neighborhood activities, especially in places where the "block plan" of organization has been tried. Even small towns and communities are showing an increased interest in developing local recreation. There is a growing awareness of this need.

More significant than this new interest is the growth of community organization, which received an impetus during the depression and which

has gained in momentum during the war period. Community or coordinating councils, as well as the new local recreation groups and defense organizations, represent a forward step in joint and cooperative efforts. The National War Fund, with its $125,000,000 goal, of which $61,277,000 was earmarked for USO, the united Red Cross, and other war drives are evidences of cooperative efforts, much of which is on the local level.

The National Recreation Association, in the Year Book summaries published in RECREATION, reports the extent of recreation facilities, programs, and services in American towns, cities, and counties, including school playgrounds. The June, 1943, issue shows that 1,075 cities had supervised play centers, with 19,557 separate play areas. Communities intensified their efforts to meet the recreation needs of the rapidly expanding war effort, and this had to be done at a time when it became necessary to replace experienced workers lost to military and civilian war services. Over 100 superintendents alone left their posts in 1942 to help with the recreation programs of the armed forces and other war efforts. The loss of trained executives and other personnel, the discontinuance of the WPA recreation project, and the increased demand for public recreation in some centers necessitated a wider use of volunteers.

Recreation and the War

The first shock of the war had both positive and negative effects on playground and park activities. In the dimout areas the evening activities had to be curtailed. Since the dimout has been lifted, evening playground activities have increased slowly but steadily. In some places parks and playgrounds were taken over by the armed forces for military and other purposes; however, most of them have been restored to the communities. The physical fitness program, which was emphasized even before our entrance into the war, has produced little public enthusiasm, especially since many of the young men who were interested have now gone into military service. The absence of young men has also had a telling effect on other playground activities, notably the sports program, which witnessed a sharp decline at first but which has picked up steadily since the early months of the war. In the regions of intense war activities, playground and park facilities have been used constantly for the servicemen and women and for the war workers. While the recreation budgets throughout the country

Youth and its wartime problems have come in for a large share of attention, and teen-age clubs and recreation centers for youth have sprung up in both large and small cities

have been maintained without great increases, cities like Long Beach, San Diego, and Seattle have found it necessary to increase their recreation budgets to meet the new needs. Playgrounds have intensified their programs for teen-age groups, especially in areas of population concentration and of increased delinquency. Adults, however, have less time for participation in community recreation. Some have found recreation in volunteer war work.

The National Park Service of the Department of Interior reports[17] a rapid decline of attendance in national and state parks; it has fallen off everywhere except in parks convenient to large centers of population or those used by military forces. In some parks the attendance dropped 70 and even over 80 per cent.

In 1941, when the National Park Service completed twenty-five years of service, this single government agency had custody of 164 units, with a combined area of 21,609,289 acres. While construction and development in parks have practically ceased for the duration, activities have been restricted, and some parks have been closed and still others are devoted wholly or in part to military use as Army rest camps, it is expected that attendance in parks will increase as soon as the war is over and gas rationing is lifted.

Need for Leadership

Everywhere the great need just now is for trained leadership. Both public and private agencies of recreation have lost heavily, especially in trained executives and personnel. Most agencies have intensified their efforts to recruit volunteers and have established new training courses for them. During last summer there were more campers and there was more money for camping than ever before, but there were fewer available facilities and trained personnel. The camp staffs, specially of boys' camps, were younger and less experienced. Many of the counselors were under eighteen years of age. Staff instability was a great problem. Day camps have been operated more extensively, making it possible to use the limited staff more fully over a longer period of time.

The war is bringing about a redefinition of recreation and a reappraisal of its place in modern society. Recreation has come to mean more of the informal and spectator types of activities and less of the active, re-creative or creative types. The increased listening to the radio and the growing popularity of movies, stage shows, and other more or less passive forms of amusement are evidences of this trend.

There is a growing acceptance of recreation as a vital public necessity by military, political, and other leaders of the country, and there is a corresponding new public interest in providing recreation facilities for both civilians and servicemen and women. Various official bodies, from Congressional commissions to mayors' committees, have adopted resolutions or statements favoring the wider assumption of public responsibility for recreation.

Postwar planning for recreation, or "long-range planning" as some prefer to call it, has received considerable attention. The specialists in the National Recreation Association have far more requests than they can handle from cities and towns seeking guidance in planning for the future. Park officials, city and regional planning commissions, and professional recreation leaders anticipate a continued interest, if not an increase of interest, in recreation after the war. It is difficult to predict what direction this interest will take, and the planning for the anticipated need is beset with many difficulties; but the trends in recreation indicated in this article, and others too numerous to mention, point to an increase of leisure, the continued popularity of amusements, and the acceptance of recreation as a public responsibility.

Among the many trends in wartime recreation, the increase of radio listening, the growing popularity of commercial amusements and entertainment for spectators, the great interest in providing recreation services for the armed forces and for war workers, and the increase of community provisions for recreation are outstanding. The federal government has taken an active part in providing facilities and programs of recreation for servicemen and women and has organized communities for this purpose. Reading library books, traveling for pleasure, visiting parks, and to some extent engaging in communal forms of recreation are definitely on the decline. Service activities have taken the place of some of the leisurely kinds of recreation. The outstanding need in the field of recreation is leadership. Postwar planning for recreation must take into account this need and find means for training for peacetime programs the leadership which has functioned during wartime.

[17] Annual reports of the Director of the National Park Service for 1941 and 1942, with supplementary reports for 1943.

On the Edge of the Strand

By THEODORE H. HARLOW

"It's all for fun. Whatever the social values to be gained through community singing, the primary purpose must be the immediate enjoyment of it. Without that, it cannot exist at all."

IT IS MONDAY evening in Long Beach, California—just any Monday evening—but there is a stir and a bustle of activity that betokens something going on. Definitely something is in the air. The famous Pike is alive with people of all ages, all sizes, both sexes. Men, women, and children are hurrying to the huge auditorium by the sea. Monday is community sing night.

The great building fills up quickly with typical Americans. The usual buzz of typically American, anticipatory conversation fills in the time until that moment when the conductor steps on stage and gives the signal for all these people to raise their voices and sing—long, loud, and merrily.

The conductor makes his appearance. Gradually, as more and more people see him, the hall quiets. There is a brief moment of pause before the great throng stands to sing *America*—and make it ring to the highest point of the vaulted roof. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag is almost a roar as each member of the crowd murmurs it. Then, preliminaries over, words are flashed on the screen and the program begins.

Here are all the old familiar songs Americans have loved and sung for generations. Here is *Little Annie Rooney, The Good Old Summer Time, Juanita, Let Me Call You Sweetheart,* and *Home on the Range.* An hour of song, of happiness and pleasure, comes to an end with *God Bless America.*

The singing is followed by a program of entertainment. The program is varied. The entertainers may be members of the community or "visiting firemen." There may be song and dance specialists, monologists, school bands, soloists, or clever skits. They have in common a delight in their art and the satisfaction of an audience especially enthusiastic because they, too, are part of the program. Here are no apathetic auditorium-chair critics, but "fellow" performers.

The evening is not yet over. In fact, the main thrill is yet to come. The old timers—and others not so old—go for the old time dance in a big way. The ample floor of the auditorium is cleared almost in the twinkling of an eye. A string orchestra appears, as if by magic. The Grand March forms to the left, eager to get going. For the dancing there are no age limits. White haired dancers of sixty, seventy, eighty, and up, jostle teen-agers who are content for the nonce, at least, to forego the pleasures of jitterbugging to learn the dances their great-grandmothers loved. Current jazz is out. Waltzes, schottisches, perhaps a Virginia Reel, are in — with a bang.

And so, another community evening ends—with a good time enjoyed by all—without money, without price. For, long ago, even the custom of passing the hat was abandoned. This is just a project of the Long Beach Recreation Commission contributing to the welfare and happiness of the community.

It's fun—and a great show!

That music is fun and belongs to all people and ought, therefore, to be made available to the greatest possible number of persons of all ages, was the keynote of the meeting devoted to discussion of "Music's Role in Recreation" held during the tenth annual Chicago Recreation Conference, November 22, 1944.

To arrive at ways to expand and multiply the opportunities within the city for participation in musical activities and to coordinate the efforts of the many groups and individuals working toward that end were the objectives of the two-hour discussion, presided over by Max Targ, a director of the Music War Council of America, and a member of the executive committee of the Choral and Instrumental Music Association of Chicago. Over 150 leaders of musical thought and activity in the city took part in the meeting, the first in the history of the Annual Chicago Recreation Conference to be devoted entirely to music.

"Direct your efforts into channels that will take advantage of 'music's power to unify, to make happier homes, a happier city, and a happier world,'" was the challenge from the meeting on "Music's Role in Recreation," held at the tenth annual Chicago Recreation Conference.

The following points brought out during the discussion were agreed upon as a basis for further planning:

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A Nature University

By HENRY S. CURTIS

"Why not a nature university?" queries Dr. Curtis. And he pictures the fascinating features which should be included in a sanctuary designed to be the home of many varieties of plant and animal life, and at the same time a place for observation and study, and the center of teaching for the district in which it lies.

IT WAS ABOUT eight o'clock on a morning in early May that I drove into the Kellogg Wild Life Sanctuary above Battle Creek, Michigan. Early as it was, I found a high school class there before me. They had driven 125 miles from Ecorse and were having a picnic breakfast around a fire they had kindled on the far side of the lake which is the center of the sanctuary. After breakfast, before returning to the museum and the zoo, they spent about two hours under the direction of Dr. Pirney, the superintendent, in observing how the various wild things were adjusting themselves to the environment and their neighbors, making their nests, and securing their living.

As we started back toward the headquarters, we were met by a first grade teacher coming in with her class of about thirty little folks. They were noisily delighted with the ducks and geese and swans swimming in the lake.

At the headquarters we found a parent-teachers' association that had driven down from Grand Rapids, about fifty miles, for a half-day at the sanctuary.

Scarcely had we reached the office when the telephone rang. The game warden from an adjoining county wanted to know if he might come over in the afternoon for a conference. Within fifteen minutes there was another call. A teacher of biology from a high school about a hundred miles away wished to know if she might bring her class up for the afternoon.

Dr. Pirney tells me this was not an unusual morning.

Some Existing Sanctuaries

The Kellogg Sanctuary is maintained by the Kellogg Foundation, created some years ago by W. K. Kellogg of breakfast food fame, but staffed and directed by the Michigan State College with Dr. Pirney and one assistant in charge. It has two residences, a small museum, a small zoo, and about one hundred acres of ground lying about a rather marshy lake. It is in a sparsely settled area about fifteen miles from Battle Creek, the nearest city of any considerable size. It is visited extensively by all southern Michigan.

There is another sanctuary in this area that is still better known. It is the Jack Miner Sanctuary below Windsor in Ontario. In speaking in the high schools in the area about Detroit, I have often found that the class in science had gone in one of

In this open space on the Huron River, where the park offers protection and the swift current prevents freezing, the ducks remain all winter long

the school busses to visit this sanctuary. It usually meant a trip of about one hundred miles, and a toll fare at the bridge or tunnel leading to Canada.

In talking with Dr. Cody, Superintendent of the Schools of Detroit, he said to me, "If there were such a sanctuary anywhere in our metropolitan region within twenty-five miles of Detroit with a good representation of our wild life, I would send every class out once a year to get acquainted."

As an interest in birds and animals is one of the first interests to develop in a young child, nature study should be one of the first forms of learning to receive attention. This past winter we had a visit from one of our grandsons, about three years of age. Every day he wanted to walk over to the University Museum to see the bears in a den outside. It was about a half-mile walk each way and often the weather was bitterly cold. On his return to Kansas City he wanted to tell everybody about the bears.

In the Metropolitan Park system of Cleveland there are three trailside museums with a naturalist in charge. These museums are equipped to show colored lantern slides of the birds, flowers, and trees of the area, and classes come out from the Cleveland schools both morning and afternoon to go over the trails, visit the museums, and listen to the talks.

The original idea of a sanctuary is a place where game is protected. In this way all of our cities become sanctuaries and most of them support many squirrels, rabbits, and even pheasants. It is hard to see how they survive with all the dogs and cats that the city maintains, but they seem to manage somehow.

All city, state, and national parks become sanctuaries in this sense of being places where hunting is not permitted. One may see dozens of wild ducks at almost any time in Central Park, New York, while the numbers may run to many thousands in Lake Merritt, Berkeley, California. If you are out in a boat on one of the lakes of Los Angeles, many ducks and geese will often crowd about your boat and take food from your hand.

One of the great advantages of the sanctuary is that the children of the wild soon cease to be wild and become tame enough to be observed. Some summers ago, in a walking trip across the Adirondacks, I came upon a sanctuary in the forest. It was unfenced, and its boundaries were hard to determine, but a doe and her fawn loafed for some time within a rod of me entirely unafraid. The warden told me that when the hunting season began many deer came in from the forest for miles around. It seems uncanny how soon the wild creatures sense that they are in a protected area.

We were told at Asheville, North Carolina, some years ago when we were visiting there, that hunting was not allowed on the great Vanderbilt estate of some fifty thousand acres, mostly woods, lying a few miles outside the city. The estate was fenced, but it was said that if a deer was startled in the area not too far away, it generally made for the Vanderbilt place and leaped the fence to safety. The mountaineers became so angry about it that they had set the woods on fire two or three times.

However, the idea of protection is less and less spoken of as the sanctuary ideal develops. It is still essential, but more and more the emphasis is on the sanctuary as a place of observation, study, and teaching. The sanctuary I have in mind would not be the home of animal life alone but of many varieties of plant life as well, and the center of the nature teaching of the area, with nature camps and conferences in summer. It would require a more elaborate equipment than is found anywhere at present.

Equipment

The first requirement for this sanctuary would be from one thousand to five thousand acres of land which should contain hills and valleys, marshes, lakes, and small streams—a combination that would not be difficult to find in Michigan. It would be essentially cheap land that need not cost much if it were not too close to a great city. Of course, the nearer the sanctuary is to a large population, the larger the attendance will be, but as has been shown from the Kellogg and Jack Miner Sanctuaries, in normal times, when tires do not forbid, a considerable distance is not prohibitive.

At the headquarters there should be houses for the staff, hostels for youth on bicycles, dormitories for visiting classes and summer conferences, laboratories, a nature library, classrooms, lecture halls for slides, a museum of the fauna and flora of the area, and a small zoo. On the side, there should be a place for trailers and camping, and somewhere in the interior there might be a Waldon Cottage or Slabsides for students or professors with special problems to work out. There should be nature trails leading out in various directions from the headquarters.

An arboretum of a hundred acres or so would be desirable, though not strictly necessary to the

(Continued on page 552)

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

"*BICYCLING,*" by Ruth and Raymond Benedict. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $1.25.

Botany. Volume II of Leroy Abrams' "Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States." Stanford University Press. $7.50. Thirty-five plant families in all. Two more volumes are in preparation.

Camping. "How to Survive on Land and Sea," issued by the Aviation Training Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, U.S. Navy. 264 pp. $2.00.

Camping. "Boys in Men's Shoes," by Harry E. Burroughs. Macmillan Co., New York. The achievements, aims, and scope of Boston's famous Borroughs Newsboys Foundation and its affiliated Agassiz Village in the wilds of Maine.

Food Fights for freedom. The George Washington Carver Club of the Bruton Heights School in Williamsburg, Virginia, is intensely interested in farming problems in their own community. The fifty members have initiated a "Food Fights for Freedom" campaign. Busy with poultry raising, plowing for Victory gardens, meat and poultry canning, they plan to inform the community of the results of their experiments and work.

"*Geology* for Everyman," by Albert Seward. Macmillan Company, New York. 312 pp. Illustrated. $3.25.

Insect Zoo at Boston Children's Museum. Miss Alice Kendall, founder and curator of the Insect Zoo, writes, "Something new in the Live Museum—an Insect Zoo. 'What is this?' asks Billy, holding up a jar with a tiny black occupant. To him even a cricket is something new under the sun. So we began with crickets and grasshoppers, a ladybug beetle and daddy longlegs. When bumble bees are encased in the Zoo, they find butter-and-eggs provided for them, a monarch caterpillar feels so much at home that shortly after his arrival he suspends himself, preparing to demonstrate the mystery of his 'house with gold nails.' Now come lacewing flies, horntails, and a butterfly that nobody knows and it is the staff member's turn to say, 'What is it?' as she retreats to the library and scans the insect volumes. Lately, by the information desk a tray has appeared with a row of Insect Zoo specimens. 'Tell me their names again,' says John pointing a small finger at each one. Then he repeats their names, pausing to smile at the little butterfly nobody knew. 'This,' he says, 'is Phyciodes.'"

"*Jefferson* and Agriculture," compiled and edited by Everett E. Edwards. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C. Single copies free as long as the supply lasts.

"*Jefferson, Thomas,* Soil Conservationist," U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. (Agriculture Department, Misc. Pub. 548) 15 pp. Illustrated. 10 cents. Single copies free from Soil Conservation Service as long as supply lasts.

Maps. "Down to Earth: Mapping for Everybody," by David Greenwood. Holiday House, New York. 262 pp., Illustrated. $4.00.

Nature Facts. Horned toads and grass snakes are not toads or snakes, but lizards. Neither is a silverfish, jellyfish, starfish, shellfish, or blackfish a fish.

Salamanders of North America. "Handbook of Salamanders," by Sherman C. Bishop. Comstock Publishing Company. $5.00.

"When frost has put an end to the flowers, and the trees and shrubs are stripped of their foliage in these northern climes, it is generally considered that the beauty of the parks and public gardens has completely departed until spring returns. . . . But occasionally we do get intense beauty in our parks during the winter season, when hoarfrost creates a fairyland of beauty by encrusting every branch and twig with sparkling crystals, and every evergreen leaf with a rim of silver." — *William R. Reader* in *Parks and Recreation.*

WORLD AT PLAY

Where'er They Walk

"A NEW ultra musical show centered around the dance band is now in progress. It will give you many a minute of sheer enjoyment. You will also see the inner workings of musical secrets and styles graphically displayed. Lieuts. Ward, Schank and Brady are writing and arranging most of the numbers. . . . The new hotel-style 'Society Band' will tease you with sweet rhythmic interpretations of erstwhile popular tunes — new to the center camp theater audiences. By way of other musical activities, 'Delta Delights,' an all-American minstrel show, is well into the casting stage."

"On Wednesday next, the Debate Hour . . . will feature members of our administrative staff, Cols. Spivey and Kennedy versus Stillman and Aring on the question of their own choosing: Resolved: 'The Refusal to Participate in a Public Debate Indicates a Lack of Community Spirit.' . . . Two variety shows, *Charlie's Aunt,* two classic programs and weekly forum lectures have been the record of our entertainment since the English left us the first of January."

These are excerpts from a camp newspaper, produced by hand and typewriter, and issued via bulletin board three times each week. On Sunday the publication is graced with colored cartoons. The camp is Stalag Luft III, somewhere in Germany where, according to the American Red Cross, forty-five hundred American airmen are held as prisoners of war. The publishers and contributors to the newspaper are among them. Their record of recreation is rather impressive under the circumstances.

Program Notes for Teen-Agers

THE TEEN-AGE club for white youngsters in Danville, Virginia is known as TAC—alphabetese for Tomorrow's American Citizens. In addition to games and dancing (daily except Sunday from 3:30 to 6:00 and from 8:00 to 10:30 P.M.), TAC operates a lively week-end program. Eight plays (two of them full-length), a War Bond Circus, a country dance, community sing, roller-skating, tea party for parents, keep things humming when school's out from Friday to Monday.

"Club 553" in Saint Paul, Minnesota, has a Sunday Evening Salon open to the public. The program for 1944-45 includes musicals, a special celebration of Children's Book Week, book reviews, lectures on the American Negro and on South America. For its weeknight meetings the Club is open to members only from 8 to 10 Wednesday and from 8 to 11:30 Friday.

A National V-Mail Letter Contest

THE U. S. Treasury Department is sponsoring a V-Mail Letter Contest, the subject of which is "What we here at school are doing to help bring you home sooner." Any junior or senior high school paper is invited to sponsor a contest to select V-mail letters actually sent overseas. If printed in a high school publication or a local newspaper, the letters may then be submitted in the national contest. Letters may be submitted up to January 27, 1945, to Mr. Earl Whitbeck, president of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, 214 South Third Street, Mechanicville, New York. *This Week* Magazine will award three War Bond prizes of $100, $50, and $25 for the three winning letters selected by the judges—Dorothy Thompson, Bob Hope, Mark Van Doren, and Sidney Whipple.

Foot Note to Book Week

ONE of the more interesting celebrations marking Book Week — interesting because it made use of that tantalizing medium, television—was put on in Schenectady. WRGB, General Electric's television station, presented a composite program of motion picture film taken at the Schenectady library, and studio dramatizations of *Jack and the Beanstalk* and a scene in the bookshop of John Newberry who, 200 years ago, published as the first children's book, *A Little Pretty Pocket-Book.*

A Modern Fairy Tale

ONCE upon a time there was an old broken-down telescope that lived in the General Electric Plant at Pittsfield. Today that old, useless instrument is well on its way to becoming a valuable addition to one of Pittsfield's parks, enabling people who, till now, could only dream about the stars, to watch the inter-stellar spaces to their pleasure and profit.

The engineer at General Electric presented the telescope to the Recreation Commission. Under his supervision high school students made replacements for missing parts in their school shops. The Park Department built a house for the 'scope at Riverside. The high school students made electric controls with which the 'scope would be mounted. The job will soon be done — a Stellar telescope second to few in the state where there used to be only "junk."

Winter Wonderland—The Park Commission of Union County, New Jersey, is ready for the beginning of a gay and active winter. Throughout the various parks in the county, skating spots, toboggan slides, skiing and coasting areas, ice hockey rinks, ski trails, snowshoeing areas, horse-drawn sleighs await the moment when "the North wind doth blow and we shall have snow." There should be no weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth among winter sports fans in Union County this year. The only thing that can foil their pleasure now is a mild winter.

National Public Health Nursing Day—The National Organization for Public Health Nursing, 1790 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y., announces the first National Public Health Nursing Day to be held January 26, 1945. The theme will be "Know Your Public Health Nurse—Who She Is, What She Does."

The purpose of setting aside a special day is to focus attention upon public health nursing as a service for *everyone* and to increase public understanding of the part played by the public health nurse in helping to build better health for family, community, and nation. The Organization has issued material suggesting how the day may be celebrated. A number of publicity aids are available free.

The Official Sports Guides—A. S. Barnes and Company, 67 West 44th Street, New York 18, N. Y., announces the publication of the following Sports Guides just off the press, *Basketball, Swimming, Boxing, Wrestling, Ice Hockey* and *Volley Ball,* and the *Recreational Games and Sports Guide* containing activities for girls and women. The *ABC Bowling Guide* was issued last October. All these guides containing official rules, articles, and records are available at 50 cents each with the exception of the *Recreational Games and Sports Guide,* the price of which is 35 cents.

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National Thrift Week 1945 — "Hold Your Gains in Thrift" will be the theme of National Thrift Week 1945 (January 17 to 23). The National Thrift Committee recommends an annual check-up of budgets on an A-B-C basis—"A," all necessary living expenses; "B," basic savings for net gain, including War Bonds, savings accounts, and other investments; "C," cash for the things which add color and zest to life, such as books, amusements, and hobbies of all kinds.

Further information may be secured from the National Thrift Committee, 441 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

A Quarter of a Century—Twenty-eight years ago a woman with rare vision and a desire to serve her fellow men saw at La Jolla, California, a dream come alive. She was Ellen B. Scripps, for fifteen years a member of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association. Through her generosity a community center "to be used forever by the public" was presented to the city.

Three years after the building had been completed a man and woman came to serve the center as supervisors. Twenty years later they were still

at work, and La Jolla was a finer place because of them. In recognition of these years of service the entire community set aside a time to honor Mr. and Mrs. Archie Talboy with their outspoken appreciation and with such outward and visible signs of their devotion as a scrapbook of 150 letters from patrons and friends of the center and of the Talboys.

Price Correction—In the October 1944 issue of RECREATION we quoted a price of six cents on the booklet, *Tricks You Can Do Without Practice* and other booklets in the series published by the Hart Publishing Company, 43 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y. Word has been received from the company that this price, which had been given us, referred to the price in quantities of 150 copies or more. Obtain single prices from the company.

When Fun's a Family Affair at School!

(Continued from page 508)

do the rest. Charley Zoller, of the Dads' Orchestra, states that family nights have gotten him acquainted with a grand new set of unusually interesting friends. He knows plenty of other people who say the same thing. He says that the men in the orchestra were always musical enough so that they have missed it in their life of purely business. The family night orchestra is giving them the fun they enjoy most.

Outstanding development of Davenport's community recreation evenings, is the talent for leadership and ingenious ideas originated from parents and children. "Even people you wouldn't expect to contribute a great deal have shown wonderful enthusiasm and initiative."

Although not very many cities in the country can equal Davenport's specially-designed community school buildings, the public use of schools after hours is becoming more and more common. Other Iowa cities which open schools to the community include Sioux City, Mason City, and Dubuque. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, now known as "the city of lighted school houses," opened its buildings to informal education and recreation as early as 1912. Richmond, Virginia, has done so for twenty years — so successfully that the Board of Education appropriated a fund that pays for light, heat, janitor.

If your city has new schools on its postwar plan, schools like Davenport's are something to remember.

At Florida's War Recreation Conference

(Continued from page 528)

interested in recreation. By bringing together the leaders in these groups, problems of leadership, facilities, and program planning can be worked out. An effective plan of organization involves a steering committee which sets up programs to be supported by all of the organizations represented in the committee. All existing facilities should be used before new ones are set up, and the importance of stressing programs rather than facilities should be kept in mind.

Recreation in Migratory Camps. Wartime efforts which are being made to introduce recreation into the camps for migratory workers must not be lost in the postwar period.

A Challenge to the Future. Mark McCloskey, speaking at the banquet which brought the Conference to a close, gave a salute to Florida communities for their three years of service to the armed forces and urged them to give the same devotion to the transition period into peacetime with continuing services to the community and its recreational needs. War has released the power of America in production and manpower. Recreation has released great forces for civic betterment and new sources of individual and national strength. For the great productive period ahead there must be recreation to provide release for the stress and strain of a high tension life. With a shorter working day and increased free time, opportunity for leisure will be as important as opportunity for work.

The test of a nation's civilization is not in its hours of work but in the wise use of its free time. This freedom will be a national asset or liability. Human conservation through recreation is a necessity for wise planning now.

In Conclusion

We have seen recreation go to war. We have witnessed the recognition of recreation by the American government as a priority for preparedness and as an essential in the winning of the war. The story of achievement by the nation, the state of Florida, the local communities, defense councils, citizens' committees, private agencies, and municipal recreation departments is an epic in our national history. Camp and community have been vital partners in the maintenance of morale through

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recreation. In the transition period let us remember:

We must have no let-up in our all-out war effort.

We must fight the war to the finish.

Our work has never been more vital than it will be during this dangerous period of overconfidence.

There must be no relaxation. We must not think of the need for youth recreation and centers in terms of the duration of the war and of delinquency. Youth is always with us. Recreation for youth is a permanent problem facing every community in peace as well as in war. The justification for youth recreation is not that it is a preventive for delinquency but that it is a basic need for normal youth.

We must somehow carry over into civic services and peacetime recreation services an army of volunteers who have perhaps been the greatest asset from the war the home front has garnered. During the transition period this great potential force for civic good must be transformed into peacetime services in recreation.

We must prepare our municipalities to enlarge their recreation programs—to provide adequate budgets—to employ trained, qualified leaders.

We must educate the public as to peacetime needs for recreation. If recreation is good in wartime, it is equally good for peacetime. If it is good for the tourists, it is good for the home folks who live here and pay taxes.

During the transition period we will do everything to raise the standards of our profession, for recreation is a profession—a worthy career that demands character, education, training, and experience, and deserves recognition and adequate compensation. Together all of us, public and private agencies, paid leaders and volunteers, do here dedicate ourselves to the civic task of making communities through improved community recreation better places in which to live and work.

A Preview of Pleasure

(Continued from page 519)

around the Zoo with "Uncle Leo," Zoo master, are a few of the events.

The members of the Oklahoma Bait and Fly Casting Club sponsor a demonstration of fly casting. "Bring your rod and join the fun" is the program note on this one. (The club members brought along extra rods for servicemen from Will Rogers Airfield, Tinkerfield, and the Naval Bases who might want to try their luck.)

Would you like to take a peek at Jupiter—the *planet,* Jupiter? You can. In fact you can take a "personally conducted tour" of the heavens *via* telescope. Professors from Oklahoma City University will be your "guides." Or would you prefer a set of square dances or a sail or an hour in the art center, or checkers or marbles or skating? It's all there. All you've got to do is step up and start participating.

Needless to say all this wealth of recreational opportunity didn't, like Topsy, "just grow." Sponsoring organization is the Chamber of Commerce, Sports and Recreation Committee. The Recreation Department is workshop and clearing house. The matter of organization, administration, and operation is much simpler than one would think. The Sports and Recreation Committee, of which the director of recreation is a member, meets each year during the month of March or April for the pur-

John H. Goss

ON THE MORNING of October 16, 1944, the national recreation movement suffered a severe loss in the death of John H. Goss of Waterbury, Connecticut, age seventy-two, retired president of the Scovill Manufacturing Company. Mr. Goss had been the sponsor of the Association in Waterbury and the surrounding area for sixteen years and had been an honorary member of the Association. His belief in the national movement and his readiness to give leadership to it had helped greatly for many years. Mr. Goss himself in his college days had been a varsity baseball pitcher, a quarter-miler on the track team, and he knew from personal experience the value of recreation.

pose of appointing a general chairman of the Playground Recreation Festival. The festival chairman then calls a meeting of representatives from every type of recreational activity, commercial and otherwise, in the city. The dates for the festival are set by the over-all group.

Each event is assigned to an enthusiastic leader who has selected that activity for his hobby. It is his job to organize and carry through his part of the program. Each such leader assists in determining the day, hour, and place for his exhibition or demonstration and sends to the director of recreation, who acts as secretary of the over-all committee, copy on what should be included in the bulletin concerning his events.

These bulletins, provided by the Sports and Recreation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, outline all the activities. They are distributed to the school children in the last week of school. During the war period, bulletins have been sent to Army and Navy bases in the city and community and to the defense plants.

Sixteen school playgrounds and pools and seventeen parks and recreation centers offer a fine program of special events during the three days of the festival. Three Negro school playgrounds and three parks carry out an interesting activity program in addition to the other special events held in the Negro community. Local newspapers are generous in their allocation of space for publicizing the festival events.

It is a happy three-day period, this festival time. Thousands of citizens may spend their leisure time either participating in or watching that recreation activity in which he is most interested. He has a good time and he usually comes back or sends his children back for a more extended though less intensive program over the summer.

Recreation and Morale

"The advent of war suddenly threw upon the people of the United States a responsibility for greatly increased work. Leisure time, some of it the enforced leisure of unemployment, greatly diminished. The planning of appropriate and satisfactory recreation seems all the more necessary at this moment. If we must have play to complete our lives, and if the time in which we may play is reduced, it is obvious that we must learn and plan to play better while we are playing."—*Karl and Jeannetta Menninger* in *Bulletin* of the Menninger Clinic.

FIGHTING WORDS

● *Free speech! Free enterprise! The democratic way!* These are fighting words. Why? Because they picture prizes of freedom worth fighting for—worth *life itself.*

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In these rugged competitive sports our future leaders, in industry, science, agriculture, government, develop not only their physical powers but a love of freedom that will never be undermined from within or without, *if they can help it.*

As they fight for a crucial victory on the gridiron—they will fight any attempt by *anyone* to restrict the rights and freedoms their forefathers gave their lives to create and perpetuate.

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The Ideal Winter Sport for Everyone!

(Continued from page 522)

ers a splendid opportunity to meet each other outside of the classroom. In the spring and summer, when the municipal rink is closed, the group turns to roller skating, hiking, and bicycling.

Where Skate?

Any small community with a few tennis courts may flood them and charge a small fee, from 10 to 25 cents, for ice skating. It may even stage an amateur ice show with everyone in town helping the project. Both youngsters and grownups enjoy preparing for the event, dressing up, and competing with each other. We have Muni Bike and Hike Clubs in Milwaukee; why not a Muni Skate Club in every community with suitable temperatures?

Colleges such as Dartmouth, Skidmore, and Vassar have skating clubs and hold winter sports carnivals which are the big events of the winter season. In New York City the College Skating Club, composed for the most part of Columbia University graduates, holds weekly skating sessions and an annual ice carnival each January on one of the public lakes in Interstate Palisades Park. The program for the 1944 carnival follows:

Carnival Program

Grand march of all skaters in costumes for colored camera
Races for men at two miles around markers
School figure contests for all figure skaters
Races for boys at one-half mile, handicapped so all ages will have a chance to win
Waltz exhibition by the Tirati Six to "Blue Danube"
Slow race, going forward, last skater is the winner
Girls' race at one-quarter mile, handicapped to insure fairness
Fox trot exhibition by the Tirati Six to "Tea for Two"
Backward race for all—one-quarter mile in length
Ten step exhibition by the Tirati Six ("Stars and Stripes")
Skate sailing races with masts and spars as approved by the Skate Sailing Association of America
Free style exhibition by the Tirati Pair
Iceboat races at ten miles around red nuns
Tango exhibition by the Tirati Six to "Jealousy"
Potato races open to all
Exhibit by high school skating clubs of New York
Informal skating by trios, each made up of two men and a girl
Comedy act take-off on Freddie Trenkler
Waltz by youngest and oldest skaters
Grand finale, with everyone skating for colored motion picture camera

"Come one, come all," reads the invitation. "No special entry required; just come out and introduce yourself."

Helen Osborne Storrow

FRIENDS OF RECREATION are saddened by the news of the death of Helen Osborne Storrow on November 10, 1944. She had been interested in the national recreation movement since 1910. She had a very active part in the Recreation Congress held in Washington, D. C., in 1911. In a single year she raised several thousand dollars through her friends for the National Recreation Association, and she herself contributed generously to its support through the years. Her gift of one million dollars in 1929, in memory of her husband, James J. Storrow, made possible the Charles River Basin esplanade and playground.

Helen Osborne Storrow herself had been active in the folk dance movement. She was a former president of the International Girl Scouts.

Her husband during his lifetime had been active in the recreation movement. As a member of the Boston School Board he had supported the recreation program and had, despite his heavy business responsibilities, assisted by addressing meetings in another city to help in getting a year-round recreation program established.

The national recreation movement has been fortunate in having the support of so many families that for several generations have given of their personal service and of their means to help make a happier and more worthwhile world.

Give Them Something to Do

(Continued from page 526)

ball, basketball, indoor tennis, clay modeling, and fingerprinting. A wagon repair service is particularly valuable to newsboys. A program designed especially for girl auxiliaries provides competent instruction by social-minded volunteers in artcrafts, knitting, and the care of children.

"Vermont Points with Pride"

THE ANNUAL Governor's Recreation Conference held in Burlington November 15th, was attended by over 200 Vermonters. The conference was designed this year to give practical assistance to the many communities which have initiated, or are planning to develop recreation programs. A feature of the conference was the workshop demonstration conducted by Ruth Garber Ehlers of the National Recreation Association. Of particular concern to Vermont recreation councils is the problem of securing trained leaders, and training volunteer leaders through leadership institutes.

The conference was keenly interested in the report of Mrs. A. O. Brungardt, Vermont Director of Recreation, reviewing the highlights of community recreation development in the state during the past year since the State Recreation Committee provided the service of a specialist to assist the towns in their recreation planning. During the year many community recreation councils have been organized.

The resourcefulness of communities in making the best use of existing facilities was paramount in the report. The use of an old church, an unused school building, a basement, a garage, or a house which the town took for taxes, highlighted the story.

Leadership was the crying need from many communities; some full-time workers have been recruited; volunteers have taken training. Nine training institutes were held.

The special problems of rural recreation were described. The community center in Morgan was pointed out as a fine example of cooperative community action, where "working bees" accomplished the conversion of an old house.

A variety of services and citizenship programs for children were described: Rutland's bicycle patrol, Randolph's anniversary party and father and son baseball games, with interesting programs from other communities.

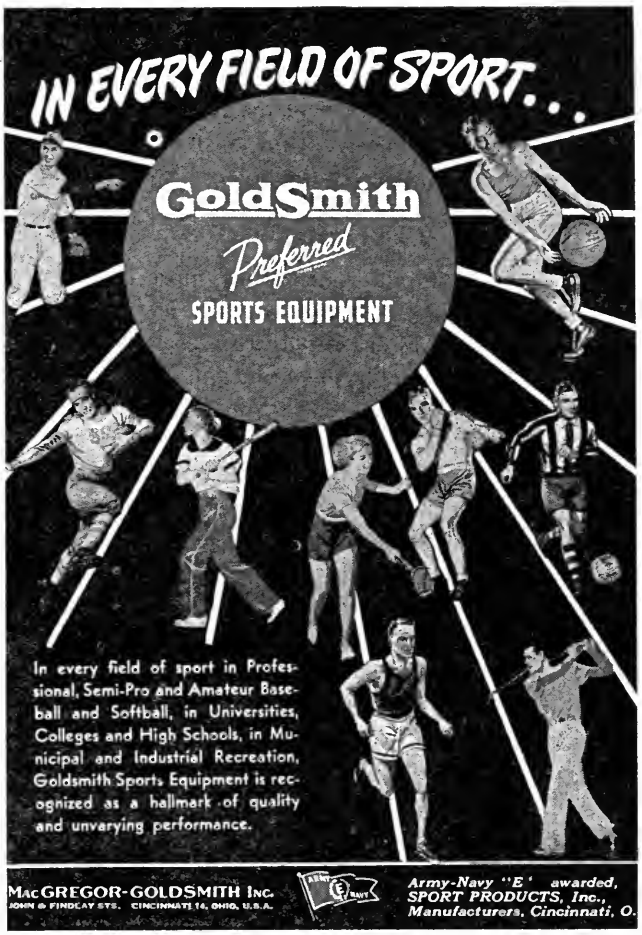
In addition to municipally sponsored winter sports, the sponsorship of men's and women's organizations has helped: White River Junction's skating rink built by the Women's Club; Woodstock Rotary Club's skating rink, and Burlington's four rinks on the parks.

Youth Centers have been operated in many communities, sponsored by municipal recreation departments, councils, Y.M.C.A.'s, churches, service clubs or fraternal organizations. In Bellows Falls, for example, the Elks have opened a Youth Center.

Twenty-five towns have postwar plans for recreation facilities, and nine towns report a proposed expenditure totaling about $750,000. These plans include swimming pools, playgrounds, community buildings. Woodstock's long-range plan was cited as a complete postwar program as were Norwich's development of swimming and play areas through community cooperation, and St. Johnsbury's and Manchester's pools and bath houses.

"Living Memorials" in the form of recreation facilities are the choice of many Vermont communities. Among them are Bennington, Northfield, Rutland, Springfield, and Arlington. Brattleboro's "Living Memorial" Fund is already being subscribed. Its goal—a bond for every Brattleboro man and woman in service.

The desire of servicemen for a home town that's "good to live in" was highlighted from the story of a Winooski soldier who sent home a contribution of $5.00 to start a swimming pool fund.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A Nature University

(Continued from page 542)

project. This would take many years to develop but need not be expensive if the tract were planted with seedlings suitable to the area.

Demonstrations

A demonstration is one of the most effective ways of teaching. Its lesson is easily learned and very likely to be remembered. In a bulletin, *Usefulness of Birds to the Farm,* by the Department of Agriculture, it is stated that by furnishing appropriate nesting facilities and covering trees and shrubs with food, it is possible to increase the number of birds per acre for the area from twenty to forty times. If this is really possible, there should be a small demonstration area near every village and town so that the children might become familiar with the common varieties. A small area of this sort on every farm would be desirable. If the sanctuary can develop such a tract for the towns and farms to copy, it will be a real service. There should be examples of feeding tables of various kinds to attract different varieties of birds.

The great hardship for most of our northern birds and animals is the winter. One often wonders how the quail and pheasants can survive when there is a foot of snow on the ground and the thermometer is ranging around zero. The best protection they can have is some sort of a dense copice, such as a kettle hole, marsh thicket, or briar patch. These thickets with briar patches furnish alike good nesting places and protection from winter storms. If the kettle holes can be reinforced with a few evergreens around the edge, it will help.

Nature Education

Such a sanctuary as has been described might well become the center of the nature education of a large area and be used constantly by all the schools for observation and study. As most of the schools of this area own their own busses, transportation would present no great problem.

The casual visitor and the student do not mix well. Nevertheless, a sanctuary must provide for both. The general public is interested though it may be only superficially. There are few forms of recreation with greater drawing power than a zoological garden, and parents will bring their children a long way to see a sanctuary. There are always tourists who are on their way somewhere, who wish to stop off for an hour or two, and young people on bicycles who come out mostly for the trip. This popular section should contain the zoo, the museum, the arboretum, a lecture hall, and very likely a cafeteria and any large assembly of wild fowl.

There should be simple dormitories or cottages so that high school and college students taking courses in nature could spend a week or more at a time, as well as cottages for research men and the regular faculty of the sanctuary which would include the nature guides, naturalists, and those engaged in special studies. I vision some such a group on a smaller scale as the astronomers on the top of Mt. Wilson in California, or the naturalists on Baro, Colorado, in Gatun Lake, Panama. There should be the finest nature library that can be afforded.

Somewhere in the central part of the area and shut off from casual visitors there should be a camp for nature students. In the summer there should be a conference for the nature teachers of the area.

A nature university of the kind described would be expensive to maintain, and it should have an endowment of four or five million dollars. The Kellogg and the Jack Miner Sanctuary each has its own foundation. It might be staffed, as the Kellogg Sanctuary is, by some university, or it might have its own faculty. It might be maintained by a private foundation, by a metropolitan school district, by a metropolitan park board, or by two or three of them acting together.

Brunswick on the Warpath

(Continued from page 511)

The sponsorship of the program was assumed by the Federal Security Agency and the USO. A director and an assistant director came to help with the work. This made it possible to expand the program in all kinds of ways if we could find adequate space. Once more we tapped the community resources for facilities. The parish house we had moved into temporarily was annexed for special events. At one time or another we have used the swimming pool, gym, athletic field, and streets of Bowdoin College for our special events. We started out in the streets with novelty dances such as a barn dance, a circus dance, Gay Nineties dance, and a calendar dance. These seemed to set the keynote of the spirit of the whole pro-

gram. They were strictly the let-the-hair-down type of informality that breeds good, clean fun. Then we began to include such things as roller skating, splash parties, buffet suppers, dancing, and craft classes.

The program is adaptable; we take all suggestions. All of these activities have not been dreamed up and put into operation by two paid workers alone. Two people couldn't possibly do it without the help, the cooperation, the hard work of many volunteers. If there is anyone in the town who hasn't contributed in some way toward the success of the program, he must be hiding! In has taken all community resources plus the *willingness* to work and cooperate to put the program over. What started out to be a clubroom for servicemen has gradually developed into a community recreation program.

One part of the summer outdoor schedule was a fine example of what can be done through cooperation. A swimming and picnic area for the residents of Brunswick and the servicemen was financed by the USO and the Brunswick Recreation Committee. The Navy assisted in making plans for it. During the day the townspeople predominated in using it, and in the evening, after duty, the Navy took over. Really there was plenty of room for both. Large outings were sponsored by industrial groups, civic and church organizations, the Naval Air Station. In eight weeks approximately 20,000 people used the area. Plans are already under way for a winter sports area that will provide for skiing, tobogganing, and skating within a short distance of the town. This area will be on property owned by the water district of the community. The USO is sponsoring the project and it is backed by the Recreation Committee, the Navy, and the town's business men.

During the past summer we had a number of street dances for the military personnel. Bowdoin College furnished the location, properties, workmen; the Navy provided the music; the USO planned the program; everyone shared in the fun.

In July 1944, the Brunswick USO program was expanded to take in both military and community recreation, and under this new plan the teen-age group was the first to attract attention. We called a meeting of a small group of this age and asked them what they would like. Then we sent out cards of invitation to the boys and girls in high school, and called a mass meeting at which a council was elected. In less than three months the Teen-Age Canteen had 250 members. They have their own committees, make their own rules, and run their own program under the advisory council of the USO. They have two sessions a week, a game night, and a dance night. At each session four of the parents act as hosts and hostesses. Only limited facilities keep the program from expanding.

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A new recreation building for the town of Brunswick is being built by the Federal Works Agency, and the town is on the edge of its collective seat waiting for it to be opened. In the course of the development of these various programs Brunswick has become recreation-conscious. The USO program is a wartime program, but when the war is over we hope Brunswick will be able to carry it on. The spirit is willing. The flesh is strong. People who have never before done any kind of work of this sort have proven to themselves that they can do it, and what's more, like doing it. It has developed leadership and character in many of the volunteers so that they have a new confidence in themselves. They have no butterflies in their stomachs when they tackle a project. They know they do not stand alone, everyone is willing to help. "Teamwork" may be a prosaic expression, but it is descriptive. It's what we have. We like it!

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND RECREATION
1201 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

A Letter from England

(Continued from page 520)

the younger generation well and truly set a problem for our local governments if not all over Great Britain. So, some one put up the idea of Youth Centres, places where youth could meet boys and girls, to indulge in something in which they both were interested, table tennis, darts, draughts, dancing, debating, any mortal thing so long as they were interested and above all be kept off the street corners and away from the "churchgoer's" bogey, the Public House.

This idea rapidly caught on all over the country and especially well here in my own town with a population of roughly 70,000 inhabitants. As time went on nearly every big school in Swindon was opened up as a Youth Centre for young people under eighteen years of age which became more and more interested. But still the over-eighteens must be catered for, so, in 1943 Swindon had the first Workers Recreational Centre set up, an old building reconditioned with every thought toward the over-eighteens possible.

We have only one centre of this nature, so again the Ministry of Labour tried, only three weeks ago, and the result was a Swindon Welcome Club to be set up. Our Town Council, the town's governing body, elected a panel of twelve of its members to prepare and organize this new enterprise where troops Allied, and coloured boys and girls alike could all mix together as one big happy family, doing things that interest them most (except the young girls' dream, necking) and it is proved most useful.

I am the individual who was responsible for the formation of the House Committee now in power. Our aim is something different every night and up until now we are doing o. k. I am on the House Committee and naturally interested and keen on anything of this nature and I would be glad if I could get your views on your Youth Centres and the way in which they were first started and how they are being run.

Please don't think that I am a sourfaced "guy," against beer drinking or any form of a good time because I'm not. Far from it. I'm only young once and boy, oh boy, I try and make the very best of life even though we have a war on, on our doorstep sometimes! So, cheerio for now, good luck to you, your youth centres, and its organizers, and of course have a very happy Christmas and may you "toast" to a victorious and prosperous New Year for the Allied Nations.

By the way, I do not wear a monocle or speak with an Oxford accent, but with a West of England "twang" typical of this my country speech of Wiltshire.

Best of luck and best wishes.

(Mr.) Ray Bennett

Tuesday, 14th Nov., 1944.

Detroit Plans for the Future

(Continued from page 513)

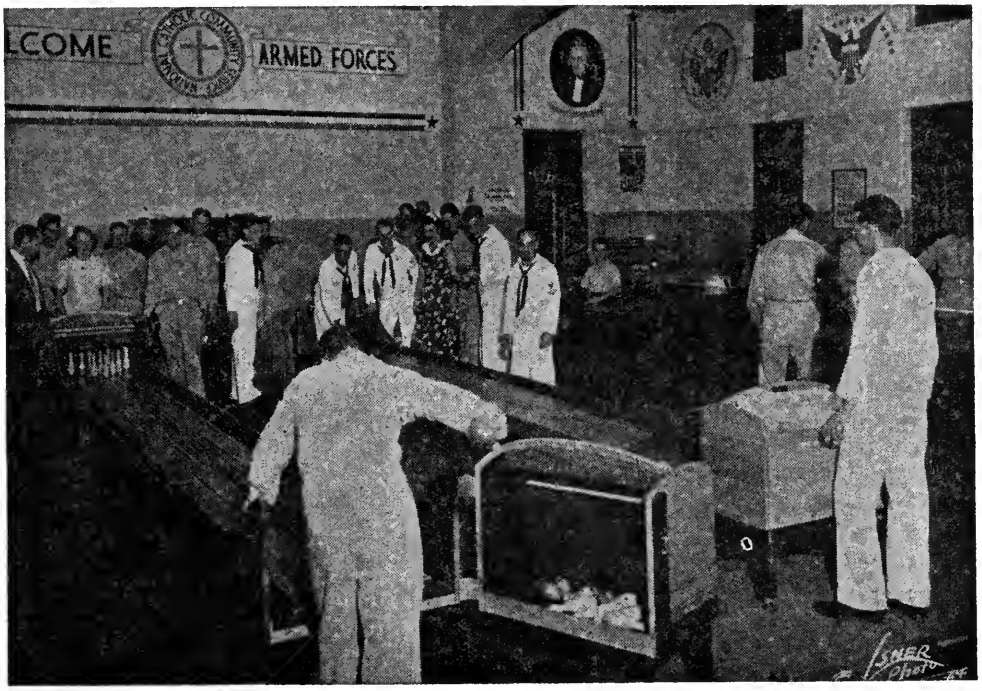
edied by the construction of eight outdoor pools at a total cost of $2,720,000. Plans are ready for the construction of reinforced concrete pools, complete with locker rooms, showers, purifiers, and similar facilities. Sites have already been selected to place these pools in congested areas to give the residents of those neighborhoods the outdoor recreation and health-giving exercise which they will provide.

At the present time the only municipal outdoor bathing available is at the Belle Isle Bathing Beach where capacity was taxed long before Detroit's population reached its present figure, and at the Rouge Park Pools at the extreme western end of the city where an almost continuous line of bathers waits for lockers during the warm weather!

Other Projects

Street Tree Planting. In addition to the construction of buildings and acquisition of new land for parks and playgrounds, an expenditure of $2,055,625 is planned for a program of street tree planting and rehabilitation of parkways.

Roads and Bridges. The sum of $2,311,000 has been set aside for the building of roads and bridges in the public parks.



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A New Playfield for Las Vegas, Nevada

PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT of a large and beautiful playfield are under consideration in Las Vegas, Nevada. One of the most important features of the proposed plan is a swimming pool measuring 160 by 60 feet. The plan calls for shallow water at both ends, leading to a deep section in the center where diving boards of regulation type would be erected. Adjacent to the pool would be dressing rooms for men and women designed to conform with the modified Spanish type of architecture accepted as most suitable for this area. A sanded beach area would be provided near the pool.

Included in the plan is a tot lot for preschool children with a wading pool and sand pits. Adjacent would be a pergola to provide for the comfort of mothers whose children are playing in the area. Similar tot lots are planned for smaller areas throughout the town. In the playground area of the park would be athletic equipment for older children and slides, swings, rings, and bars for smaller children. There would be a play area and outdoor theater for arts, crafts, nature study, and musical productions. Team games and sports such as football, baseball, and softball would be played in a large open meadow.

Development of the park area as outlined is dependent upon Federal aid, according to city officials.

Enroll in a Refresher Course in
MUNICIPAL RECREATION ADMINISTRATION
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This course is designed to acquaint recreation executives with the administration aspects of their department and its correlation with other departments of city government. Special emphasis is placed on the recreation problem: its program; areas and facilities; leadership; operation of playgrounds and recreation buildings; recreation organization; personnel; financial support; records and reports; evaluating recreation service; and publicity and relationships.

The enrollment fee of $35 will bring you the specially written text, an opportunity to apply the text material to your own recreation problems, comments of an authority in the field on each lesson assignment, and a certificate upon satisfactory completion of the work.

One enrollee recently wrote, *"Truthfully I cannot remember any effort on my part which has paid off in dividends so quickly."*

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THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

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A Key Apiece

(Continued from page 509)

a large part of its membership, but the men are not forgotten. Friday night is theirs to work in what craft they wish, jewelry or leather or wood or metals, under the direction of two leaders who are at their service.

There is a small monthly membership fee. The charter members form the governing board. The list of activities is already long. Here are a few examples:

Silver jewelry	Water color sketching
Handbags	Stencilling—on linen or paper
Book marks	Needlework
Weaving	Individualized note papers
Lamp shades	Photograph tinting
Rag dolls	Party planning
Baking	
Dress fitting	

The members are planning a cook book of Webster Groves' cherished recipes. Each woman who comes to the Studio is urged to bring in tried and simple recipes "for the book." "Bring a recipe, take one with you," is their motto.

With the Community Studio, Webster Groves has added another link to the chain of evidence being forged to prove their contention that "We Need Each Other." Members of the community and members of the Studio are equally happy over the project and, to inject a mundane but gratifying note, the Studio is paying its way!

The Chicago Recreation Conference

(Continued from page 529)

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet spoke at the luncheon on the subject: "Recreation: New Obligations—New Approaches." In developing his theme Dr. Overstreet said: "Play is no trifling afterthought in a democracy. It is one of the basic freedoms because it is itself both the expression and the strengthener of freedom. It is a primary concern, for the kind of recreation people make for themselves determines the kind of people they become and the kind of society they build."

After the luncheon meeting the group broke up into fourteen meetings for discussion of problems of recreation in relation to the community: Child care; the problems of demobilized servicemen; the teen-ager; racial tensions; music; a "full-time basis" for the school building; showmanship in promoting the recreation program; the maintenance of the OCD's brain child—the block plan; governmental planning in postwar recreation programs were among the questions considered in these meetings. In the concluding general session from 7:00 to 9:00 P. M. Dr. Howard McClusky talked about youth and community recreation.

Just to prove that recreation workers can practice what they preach, both plenary sessions indulged in a period of community singing, and there was an old-fashioned Hoe-Down scheduled to follow the discussion groups.

Edward L. Burchard

EDWARD L. BURCHARD, former executive secretary of the Chicago Recreation Commission, died November 29th at Freeport, Illinois, at the age of seventy-seven. He had been deeply interested in the community center movement, associate editor of the *Community Center Magazine,* and had been active in the Chicago Civic Club. His fine spirit had endeared him to many active in recreation throughout the entire country.

Recreation—Glamourized!

(Continued from page 531)

may take the form, for instance, of a holiday celebration with costumes, decorations, prizes, social games, and folk dances. Atmosphere is of the essence. Not only is it created by decorations, but the tone is definitely set by hostesses who give charm, grace, poise to the total program. In the background is the guiding hand of the professional recreation worker, whose force is continually felt, but whose presence is not obvious.

The features of the educational and recreational program of the center are combined with the charms of the commercialized club. Admission is by membership. The program is managed by committees, which are composed of both adults and young members. It belongs, and is of itself, a youth program; for youth, by youth, with the guidance and inspiration of adults.

The canteen has been conducted successfully at Juvenile House since last June. It was the joint project of two entirely different organizations, the American Women's Volunteer Services and a community center. The organizations pooled their resources. The AWVS made possible additional professional staff and contributed the services of fifteen or sixteen young women who acted as hostesses each evening. There are four professional staff members including two social recreation workers, a case worker, and an educator.

The partnership went beyond this pooling of resources. Each step of the way was planned by joint committees from Juvenile House and the AWVS, and by a canteen committee of young people. This made it a three-way job. Each organization retained its own identity, yet by combining their strengths they were able to create a challenging program. The canteen came to combine all the features essential to a successful canteen program.

During the summer the canteen was held in an outdoor playground at the center, lighted and equipped especially for this purpose. It attracted four hundred young people for five evenings each week, and it is now being continued indoors as a fall and winter program. For the winter a discussion group has been added to the agenda. Tea around a samovar provides atmosphere for the talk. Special entertainment programs featuring music, dramatics, and similar activities are being planned by the committee.

The canteen is gaining weekly in scope and in glamour, educationally and recreationally. Each day adds another cubit to its stature.

Postwar Planning

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL plan for that city for the postwar period calls for a large increase in public open spaces. For the first time a park and recreation system is planned with a standard of four acres of open spaces per thousand people for the people within the city, and three additional acres per thousand outside the city but in the adjoining region.

A wide green belt will be provided, which will serve as a ring of recreation parks around the city. The desire is to hold the city within bounds. The British believe that cities ought not to spill over into the adjoining territory; that there must be city control of boundaries just as there is flood control.

It is believed that a large number of the British soldiers returning will not want to sit in the bleachers, but will demand opportunity to participate in sports.

Operating Artificial Skating Rinks

(Continued from page 517)

necessary for skating in the evening and for flooding during the night time. An attendant is on duty during the period the rink is open for skating.

Music is furnished at all three rinks through the use of a public address system with automatic record changers. The music was installed for the purpose of encouraging figure skating. The astonishing result, however, is that insistent demands to play the music are received from practically everyone using the rinks, even from children in the early teens. We have also found that music aids to a considerable extent in maintaining discipline. People unconsciously skate to the music.

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These two books in the hands of teachers, recreation leaders, young people's groups will do much toward making the peoples of Latin America real and toward showing that, in spite of a diversity of cultures, the people of the United States are on their way to amicable living with one another and with peoples of other Americas.

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On the Edge of the Strand

(Continued from page 540)

Since recreation is the art of entertaining ourselves, justification of music's rightful place as a recreational medium is to be found in the opportunities that are afforded for active participation in musical activities that give pleasure to the participants.

Expanding the opportunities for musical participation should begin in the schools, with school music organizations functioning actively in community life, and educators giving freely of their time to create and encourage alumni groups and music organizations in clubs, churches, and community centers, so that the benefits of graduates' musical training may be carried over into adult life.

Instead of regarding certain types of music as good or bad, more attention should be paid to music's functional aspect—what is does for people. Intelligent planning and cooperation are needed to bring into full play music's power to enrich life, to help break down racial and class distinctions, to promote fellowship and understanding, and to achieve unity and harmony in community relations.

Community singing can and should be made an integral part of all public gatherings. Professional leadership or direction is not necessary, but "song starters" are needed and should be trained in schools and in Scout and other youth programs outside the schools.

Continued expansion of the facilities already afforded in the city's parks for free public concerts and community music participation projects should be encouraged and carried out.

The Army regards music as essential in the recreation of enlisted men and has provided instruments, self-instruction manuals, song books, and opportunities for soldiers to amuse themselves through music in their free time. Millions of servicemen will continue to seek fun and entertainment through participation in musical activities after they are demobilized. To afford opportunities for such activity is an obligation of the community.

Music in industry, both during work and leisure time, makes better and happier workers, for it rounds out their personalities, furthers a spirit of friendliness and fellowship, and helps to relieve fatigue. Well-trained, full-time directors are needed to bring music's maximum benefits to the workers in the city's factories, and much missionary work can yet be done to sell plant managers on the value of industrial music programs.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Arts and Our Town

Compiled by Virginia Lee Comer. Association of Junior Leagues of America, Inc. The Waldorf Astoria, New York 22. $.50.

COUNCILS OF SOCIAL AGENCIES and Community Chests have everywhere brought before the people the health and welfare needs of their communities and the resources available for meeting these needs. No such service has been rendered in the cultural field. The Association of Junior Leagues of America, believing that a knowledge of cultural resources would be valuable to agencies and individuals alike, has prepared a plan for the survey of such resources in any community. *Arts and Our Town,* with its careful and detailed study plans and directions for making a survey, merits the thoughtful consideration of leaders in all phases of community development.

The Singing Caller

Collected and Arranged by Ann Hastings Chase. The Association Press, New York. $1.50.

NOT SO VERY LONG AGO square dancing was—to most people—a "quaint" diversion, reminder of a by-gone day. In those not-so-distant times men who knew the calls were few and "fur" between. "The old callers and fiddlers kept their craft secret if they could, and only initiated a few apprentices into their ways of dance and music." Perhaps, for that reason there were few people prepared to meet the increasing demand for square dancing. The art of the "singing caller" especially was "conspicuous by its absence."

The Singing Caller, therefore, will surely prove a boon to square dance enthusiasts. Here are fifteen dances; popular with our pioneering ancestors, becoming more and more popular in this modern, war-harassed world. Ann Hastings Chase has arranged the dances for a maximum of usefulness. A prefatory note on each dance is followed first by the piano score for the music of the dance. The calls and the dance steps are arranged in chart form with the proper section of the accompaniment indicated for each call. Introductory sections on the "wheres" and the "hows" of square dancing preface the descriptive section of the book. "Stick" figure illustrations add their humorous charm to the whole. Here, indeed, is a valuable source book for groups who are planning to give the square dance "a whirl" or who are, through experience, already aware of its joys.

The Postwar World and You

By Frances P. Arnold, Helen Gibson Hogue, Margaret B. Ferreira, Beatrice Elizabeth Allen. Girls' Friendly Society, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. $.25.

THE AUTHORS of this booklet have developed in it suggestions to the young girl for evaluating her personality and her relationship to her community. Sections of the pamphlet deal with social, creative, and spiritual development and with health.

Your Career in Music

By Harriett Johnson. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. $3.00.

WRITTEN FOR THE PERFORMER—or the person who hopes to become a performer—in one of the many branches in the field of music, this book discusses the opportunities of music as a career. In the words of the author, the book's aim is "to present a timely picture of musicians working at their numerous and different jobs throughout the country." Boogie-woogie and the harmonica as well as symphony and grand opera come within the scope of the volume. There are, too, chapters on composing and on musical criticism, music for the cinema and for the radio. The study is one of a series of books on careers published by Dutton in recent years.

Our Young Folks

By Dorothy Canfield Fisher. Harcourt, Brace and Company, 383 Madison Avenue, New York 17. $2.75.

HOW ARE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE getting along in their towns, home states and home nations? What do they need to give them a chance for full, useful and happy lives? Can local boys and girls get local work to do or must they go away to find jobs? What means have been devised to provide for them what they need? How much of what they need has already been provided by these means?

Mrs. Fisher, who has been an active member of the American Youth Commission from its inception, answers some of these questions in an informal talk with her fellow citizens.

Timothy's Tunes

By Adeline McCall. Drawings by Anna Braune. The Boston Music Company, Boston. $1.50.

TIMOTHY IS A MOUSE with good advice about ears and their uses for very young children. By following in Timothy's footsteps and using the tunes in his book, the tiny tot section of the populace can get a head start on their musical education. Adeline McCall has developed a method of teaching very young children to play the piano (or the Xylophone or Psaltery) which is here set forth with simplicity and charm. The pupil starts with listening, proceeds to singing, then tries his hand at playing. The tunes begin with chants on one note and increase in range and difficulty until the whole octave is used.

Behind the Microphone

By John J. Floherty. J. B. Lippincott Company, New York. $2.00.

EXCELLENT PHOTOGRAPHS and an interesting collection of anecdotes make good reading about the history of radio from the first weak "S" sent across the Atlantic by Marconi in 1901 until the present day. Here is a book that will take the reader behind the scenes of the radio industry to give him some small idea of the actual and potential power of this baby (relatively speaking) in the family of the communications arts.

Handbook for Guardians of Camp Fire Girls.

Camp Fire Girls, Inc., 88 Lexington Avenue, New York 16. $.60.

Here is a manual for Camp Fire Girls leaders that should prove of value to other group leaders as well. The book is in two parts. The first section deals with organization and leadership; the second is a compilation of activity suggestions under dramatics, nature lore, handcrafts, music, and similar headings.

For Country and Mankind.

By Bernard J. Reines. Longmans, Green, and Company, New York. $2.25.

Mr. Reines has brought together twelve short plays rooted in American history and tradition. Many of them can be produced without costumes or scenery. Each of them has been demonstrated in production as a "playable" piece. The book should help fill the need for plays for special occasions such as "Book Week," "Be Kind to Animals Week," and similar "weeks" that call for celebration from time to time. The plays require no royalty when produced on stage by amateur groups.

Songs of Fighting China.

Chinese News Service, 1250 Sixth Avenue, New York. $.50.

The war has brought a new music to China. During the period since the Japanese invasion of Manchuria, choral singing has developed for the first time, and new composers have written fighting songs for a China on the march. This collection of eleven songs was first published in Chungking under the title, *China's Patriots Sing*. The copies of the first edition which were sent to the United States have now run out, and popular demand from American audiences has made it necessary to issue an American edition.

The songs in the collection were selected by Mr. Lee Pao-chen with the help of students and choral groups, and are representative both of the most popular tunes in China and of the most popular composers.

Junior Hi Kit, No. 1.

Edited by Park Hays Miller and Donald Lomas. The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. $2.00.

Here is a collection of program suggestions for leaders of church clubs for boys and girls in the twelve to fourteen age group. Included in the kit are plans for programming meetings devoted to study, fun, worship, service activities, special occasions. A sponsor's manual goes with the program material.

The Society Kit, Vol. II, published by the same company and edited by the same editors is a companion piece to the *Junior Hi Kit*. It is a compilation of programs and topics for young people of different ages gathered in church societies or clubs.

The Music Curriculum in a Changing World.

By Lilla Belle Pitts. Silver Burdett Company, New York. $2.20.

Curriculum planners are being constantly challenged by changing events and conditions surrounding their educational world. A suggestion for meeting one such challenge is given in a pattern music curriculum. It is based on a conception that a child lives in four worlds, the worlds of men, of nature, of material invention, and of the creative imagination; and upon the belief that the teaching of music must be related to the child's experience of life. Five charts illustrate the suggested curriculum in its overall and its detailed aspects.

Recreational Activities for Crippled Children.

Prepared by Mrs. Lois Perrin. State Services for Crippled Children, University of Iowa. Obtainable from Extension Service, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. $1.00.

Since play is an essential part of every child's life, it should have an important place in hospitals and homes where there are handicapped children. This booklet has been compiled for the use of mothers of convalescent children, for nurses on children's wards, and recreation departments of children's hospitals. Its purpose is to help the child maintain normal recreation as far as possible even though he is ill. There are sections on active and quiet games, spastic activities, bed and shop crafts, songs, and special parties. Suggestions are offered for appropriate toys.

Creative Schools.

National Education Association, 1201 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. $2.00.

The twenty-third yearbook issue of *The National Elementary Principal* reports on current projects in creative education Its thirty-eight articles describe educational methods that go far, far beyond the old "readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmetic" curriculum. Though written primarily from the point of view of the schoolroom the material reaches well outside its four walls and suggests an important approach to work with boys and girls wherever it goes on.

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Not to Be Bought with Money

MONEY ALONE cannot buy *Life* for your children and mine. A certain amount is needed—people do want skating ponds, hills for coasting and skiing, bathing beaches, baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, golf links. People do need baseballs, skates, athletic equipment, violins, pianos, crafts material. And all this is important. However, it is surprising how much can be made out of how little.

But—a boy would rather have a father who can make a whistle out of a willow branch, who will swim with him, skate with him, tramp with him, guide him a little but not too much in making things for himself—than all the material equipment money can buy.

Money is not *the* important thing in recreation, whether it be federal, state or local, or whether it be in your own bank or in your own pocket.

What is important in recreation is the seeing eye, the hearing ear, the hand with the touch, the voice that lifts, the face that lights up, and even more the spirit of good fun that is within.

Now let us be honest—face facts. There are, in more cities than we care to admit, well-equipped playgrounds with very few children on them, well-furnished recreation center clubrooms for boys and girls, that are empty. Just so there are private homes with pianos and violins that are seldom used by the young people, elaborate craft tools that rust away, barely touched by human hands. The trouble is not lack of money. And these homes, these playgrounds, these recreation centers are sometimes not without leaders, even leaders with Ph.D. degrees.

On the other hand, here is a home always swarming with happy children at play; here is a backyard much used summer and winter; here is a playground, there a recreation center always used to capacity.

What is the difference? Whatever it is, it is not primarily money. Money alone, training at college alone, cannot bring the kind of leadership that makes life rich, deep, satisfying.

Recreation and the recreation spirit is caught, not taught. One man walks to the train and sees the beauty of the snow on the trees, hears the birds that are singing for him, is touched by the mystery of the stars at night, observes the goodly proportions of the public buildings, catches the story of the world about him, and the little girl that leaves her breakfast to walk with long steps to the train with him enjoys all that he enjoys, though few words are spoken, and she in turn becomes a real and true leader in recreation, a leader in life, and others feel with her that life is beautiful, that there is much to do that brings pleasure, and people like to be with her as they like to be with her father, "because she thinks of things," because "life with her is never dull." There's always a song, a little play, storytelling, a game, an athletic contest—you never can tell what.

The cities of our country need thousands, millions like her, who grew up in a world that has the recreation spirit, a world that is alive with good fun and happy activity.

The creation of this kind of spirit, this kind of climate, atmosphere in our homes, our churches, our schools and among our people, is what gives our playgrounds, our recreation centers an opportunity really to render their special service.

Already the recreation movement in America has land, buildings, facilities, valued at about six million dollars. There is still need for money—quite a lot of it—for freeing the right individuals with gifts for recreation leadership. But the greatest task of the recreation movement in America is not securing great amounts of federal money, of state money, or great gifts of private property for recreation use in localities, helpful as such gifts are. The greatest need is not for more money or more machinery of any kind.

The greatest need is to secure the spirit of recreation, the understanding of the possibilities of daily living on the part of all our people, so that larger sums of money can in the future be wisely used, because the people themselves in all the relationships of life carry the spirit of abundant living and demand the necessary facilities. And this cannot be bought with money.

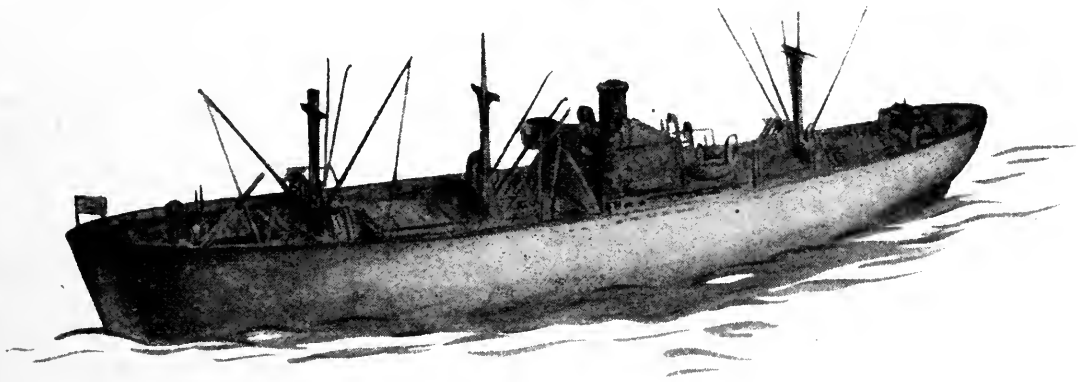
HOWARD BRAUCHER

February

Photo by H[illegible]

Courtesy California Parent-Teacher

They that go down to the sea in ships,
That do business in great waters
—Psalm CVII.



The Launching of the "Joseph Lee"

By MARY LEE

ON NOVEMBER 27, 1944, under the grey, salt mist of a Northeasterly storm, a new Liberty Ship was given a name ancient in New England maritime history: "Joseph Lee," in honor of the man who for twenty-seven years was President of the National Recreation Association. Descendant of a long line of hard-handed seafaring men, of shipowners and designers, of prosperous India Merchants, a lover of the Massachusetts coast and of the great ocean out beyond, a man who lived a lifetime always within range of the barnacle-scented smell of the east wind, there was a deep appropriateness about the name and about the storm that dampened the yards of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation at South Portland, Maine, that winter morning. For Joseph Lee was of New England and its rigors, of a line of those "that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters," but the name that he made for himself in New England reached out beyond its borders, as the ship that has been named for him will reach out to the farthest harbors of the far seas.

It was at the suggestion of the National Recreation Association that the United States Maritime Commission chose the name "Joseph Lee," and its sponsorship had the close cooperation and support of the Massachusetts Civic League, of which Mr. Lee was the founder and president for many years. The actual sponsor was Joseph Lee's granddaughter, Juliet Woodbury, daughter of his eldest daughter, Margaret Lee Southard.

It was a stormy day, a day of dampness and mist that beat across the shipyards from the grey reaches of Casco Bay and the vast spaces of the North Atlantic, a day of rain and fog that dripped into the first early snowfall of November. The grey, steel prow of the new ship rose high above the heads of the little group of spectators, the black letters "Joseph Lee" along its rail melting away into the swirling mist above them. Sleet drizzled down onto the fur coats and gay corsage bouquets of the party of people who had come down from Boston, and onto a little knot of shipyard workers — overalled men and women in Gloucester fishermen's caps — who gathered at the railing of the East Area Construction Basin to watch while Joseph Lee's granddaughter, the moisture clinging to her bright curls, cracked a gaily-decked bottle of champagne across the waterline of the steel prow, the bottle's contents fizzling out onto her bouquet of pink roses, and onto cheeks still pinker.

"Wet day for a launching!" commented the down-Easters. . . .

Yet there was an appropriateness about the New England weather, for Joseph Lee was never one to let his purposes be dampened by the weather. Raised on the New England coast, the rigors of its climate were of his bone and sinew, and those who stood there knew that he would have loved to lower his head, pulling his hat well forward across his forehead and hunching up his shoulders, and forge ahead into the Nor'easter. Those who knew him knew that he would have rejoiced in sailing, as his grandfather, Henry Lee, sailed—and even

one of his uncles — out of Boston Harbor with spreading canvas creaking to the east wind, bound for Calcutta. . . . To stop a New Englander from the achievement of his purposes takes more than weather.

The little group at the railing of the basin that bleak New England morning understood this. For to everyone there the name and work of Joseph Lee had special meaning. His family were there: his widow, Mrs. Joseph Lee, who for twenty-five years before her marriage, as his secretary, Marion Snow, had acted as right-hand helper in his work for recreation and who, under the affectionate nickname "Snowie," was "guide, philosopher and friend" to all his children. His son was there, Joseph Lee, former member of the Boston School Committee, chief promoter of sailing-for-everybody on the Charles River, backer of the bill which has recently become a law creating the new Recreation Board of Boston of which he is a member. With him were Mrs. Lee, and their son, Joseph Lee III, aged nine, for whom an expedition to a ship launching seemed especially ordained. Mrs. Harry C. Southard, mother of the sponsor was there with Mr. Southard, who had ably piloted the group down from Boston by train. Mrs. Southard's son, Thomas C. Woodbury, stalwart twin brother of the ship's sponsor, was on hand with his camera. There, too, was Joseph Lee's second daughter, Miss Susan M. Lee, now actively carrying on his ideals for recreation by her work as Third Vice-President and Secretary of the Board of the National Recreation Association. Here, too, was Miss Amy W. Cabot, sister of Joseph Lee's first wife, Margaret Cabot Lee.

Also with the family party was Miss Mary Lee, granddaughter of Joseph Lee's uncle, the late Colonel Francis L. Lee, last of the Lee family to sail to Calcutta as a super-cargo, who, at his home on Lake Champlain, so Joseph Lee loved to relate, first initiated him into the mysteries of fishing, a recreation that lasted him a lifetime. Here, too, was Mrs. Robert G. Vickery, formerly Catharine Thacher, for years close neighbor and friend of the whole Lee family at their summer home at Cohasset, a fellow tautog fisherman in summer, and a member of Joseph Lee's skating expeditions on the Charles River in the winter.

Besides the family party were a number of those associated with him in the recreation movement: Miss Abbie Condit, Managing Editor of RECREATION; Mrs. Eva Whiting White, member of the Board of Directors of Community Recreation Service of Boston, former Head Worker of Elizabeth Peabody House; Mrs. John R. McLane, a sponsor of the National Recreation Association, who came down from Manchester, New Hampshire, where she is a member of the Board of the Y.W.C.A. and an active worker for recreation, and Lieutenant Homer Wadsworth, U.S.N., now stationed at Portland, Superintendent of Recreation, Pittsburgh, Pa., on leave of absence.

A pleasant air of hospitality was added by the welcome of Maine recreation leaders: William J. Dougherty, Secretary-Engineer of the Park Commission of Portland; William T. Kiley, Director of Recreation of Portland, Mrs. Kiley and Mr. Kiley's mother; Granville Lee, former Director of Recreation of Portland, a veteran of eighty-eight years whose memory reached back to sailing ship days, and Bernard Campbell, Director of Recreation for South Portland, with Mrs. Campbell.

If the spirits of two former Joseph Lees, sea captains and ship designers, of Stephen Higginson, Patrick Tracy, Jonathan Jackson, George Cabot, were hovering in the mists above the shipyard they may have been disappointed in this modern launching. Here was none of the exciting chopping away of blocks, the sudden shudder of movement, the slow slide down greased ways, the great splash into the water that used to thrill spectators at the launchings of their brigs and brigantines at the shipyards of Newburyport and Salem in the days before the Jefferson Embargo. Modern launchings are not like that. The poetry is gone. The "Joseph Lee" stood there, stock still, propped up by a forest of iron pipes, while an elderly Italian gathered up old lunch papers and other scraps in a wheelbarrow on the dry bottom of the basin below the launching party. Indeed, she seemed no nearer to the water after the champagne bottle was cracked than she had before. But officials of the shipyard assured the sponsors that some time during the night, the water would be let into the basin, and a tug would tow her out, unromantically, into Portland Harbor.

Yet there was romance of a modern kind in the mere fact of the great ship's existence; the ship was completed in fifty-eight days from the laying of its keel, the Company's officials said. The poetry of modern times is Speed.

After the launching, the company was shown to the office of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation's President, Andrew B. Sides, by John H. Baker, Secretary of the Corporation. Mr. Sides made a cordial address of greeting, pointing out

that the "Joseph Lee" stood in the basin between two other Liberty Ships nearing completion—the "Wendell Willkie" on the one hand, and the "Alfred E. Smith" on the other, each named for a liberal and forward-looking leader in his own field. And here, again, those who knew Joseph Lee smiled, wondering what witty wisecrack he would have brought forth at his ship's standing there, independent, between the Democrat and the Republican, as he had stood in life.

President Sides then presented Miss Woodbury with a large silver plate, engraved at its center: "Presented to Miss Juliet Woodbury, Sponsor S.S. 'Joseph Lee,' launched November 27, 1944—New England Shipbuilding Corporation—South Portland—Maine." After the presentation, he called on Joseph Lee's son and namesake to say a few words about his father.

Mr. Lee spoke of his pleasure and that of his family that this ship should bear a name which had for many years before and after the American Revolution been well known in American maritime history. He recalled that his father's great-grandfather, Joseph Lee, went to sea at the age of thirteen and later became a substantial ship designer, merchant, and owner of privateers in the Revolutionary War, and that his maternal grandfather, Thomas Handasyd Perkins, had declined the position of Secretary of the Navy on the ground that he was already owner and commander of a larger fleet than that of the United States.

Joseph Lee, his son pointed out, would have been the last person in the world to want to have a roomful of people sit and talk about him. And this, not because he was not interested in good talk always, but because of his strong belief in getting the job done. He would have taken delight, his son believed, in this great ship as a task and cause engrossing the full energies of its builders. And yet, in the joint effort of many individuals in building this ship, he might, too, have seen one of the dangers of modern civilization: the danger that in the course of this creativeness, the individual workers might succumb to a mechanical routine to such an extent that they became mere cogs in a great machine, so that life might go by them without their having lived.

This, Mr. Lee emphasized, was his father's fundamental belief: that causes of unrest were not economic but spiritual. Men were too often seeing life pass away without ever having lived—facing the prospect of carrying their ideals and aspirations unfulfilled and unspoken to the grave. To meet this problem, Joseph Lee's answer was recreation. The recreation movement he conceived as a means of putting the theme of rounded lives back into modern, mechanized existence, of giving people a chance, that a man's life might not be only a fragment, but a rounded thing.

In this belief of Joseph Lee, his son added, the Lee family were to give to the new "Joseph Lee"

Juliet Woodbury, Ship's Sponsor, her aunt, Susan Lee, Third Vice-President, National Recreation Association, and Joseph Lee, III

a ship's library, so that her crew of forty-eight men, the twenty-six members of her Navy complement, and her officers might have the opportunity of refreshing themselves by reading, of keeping themselves from becoming individually lost in the great machine of modern warfare.

Mr. Lee thanked the officials of the New England Shipbuilding Corporation for the efficiency and friendliness of their hospitality, and invited all who were present to be guests of the Lee family for luncheon at the Lafayette Hotel in Portland. So, after the flashing of many photographs, and the surrender of their special passes, the party once more climbed into the Company's fleet of beach wagons and were piloted by their efficient women drivers to the hotel, where appetites made keen by the New England weather were satisfied as only State of Maine cooks know how to satisfy them.

The ship "Joseph Lee" has, since its launching, been delivered to its operators, Messrs. Smith and Johnson of 60 Beaver Street, New York City, and the ship's library, its volumes chosen with care by members of the Lee family, with the assistance of Lee C. Brown, Librarian of the American Merchant Marine Association, was shipped to Portland on December 16, 1944, and has been acknowledged by the Ship's Master, Captain K. Langfelt. and by the Commander of the Armed Guard, Lieutenant W. R. Kendall.

The National Recreation Association contributed to the library a collection of books and pamphlets, among them the memorial number of RECREATION of December, 1937, with its photographs, and sketches of Mr. Lee's life and work by friends and co-workers. The Association also sent the ship a photograph of Mr. Lee receiving the Distinguished Service Medal for his services as President of War Camp Community Service during the first World War. A bound volume of many of Mr. Lee's shorter writings, brought together by Miss Katharine Lyford, was contributed by the Massachusetts Civic League.

With the collection went the following letter from Mrs. Lee:

TO THE OFFICERS AND CREW OF THE S.S. "JOSEPH LEE,"
New England Shipbuilding Corporation,
South Portland, Maine.

The members of Joseph Lee's family are sending a collection of books as a gift to the ship, and hope that the officers and men will enjoy reading them as we have enjoyed selecting them.

The National Recreation Association, of which Mr. Lee was President, has also sent some recreation books and pamphlets.

The Massachusetts Civic League, of which Mr. Lee was President and founder, is having a collection of Mr. Lee's smaller writings and pamphlets bound in a volume and sent to the ship.

We all enjoyed more than I can tell you the thrilling experience of taking part in the christening of the "Joseph Lee" and the courtesy and friendliness of the officers of the shipbuilding company. It was a day to be remembered always.

I only wish we could follow the ship as she sails out of Portland Harbor and on to whatever her place in history may be. Perhaps some of you will tell us some day.

Yours very sincerely,
MARION S. LEE,
Dec. 18, 1944. (Mrs. Joseph Lee, Senior.)

To which the Master of the "Joseph Lee" replied as follows:

2 January 1945

MRS. JOSEPH (MARION S.) LEE, SR.
c/o MISS SUSAN M. LEE,
90 Macdougal Street,
New York City 12.

Dear Friends:

The Master, officers and crew of this good ship recently received your kind letters acquainting all of your generous gifts and interest. The portrait and some of the books have already arrived and will accompany us on our first voyage. They will be a constant reminder to those who use them daily of your generosity.

Already we have observed the behavior of the "Joseph Lee" while at sea during coastwise voyage and can assure you that the ship will do its part to bring to a successful conclusion this war.

We are happy to learn of the life and work of the man for whom the vessel was christened. It adds materially to our interest in her and our determination to make her and keep her a good ship. It is a most appropriate gesture for the Maritime Commission to name these vessels in honor of those outstanding citizens who have contributed so much to the development of our national culture and greatness. It is our genuine hope that this ship will carry Joseph Lee's name with honor and success.

It will be a pleasure at some future date to relate to you, as you suggest, the chronicle of her first voyage should the opportunity and interests of security permit. We shall welcome your continued interest.

With kindest personal regards, we remain

Sincerely yours,
K. LANGFELT, *Master.*
W. R. KENDALL, Lieutenant USNR, *Armed Guard Commander.*

And so the "Joseph Lee" plies forth, across the oceans of the world, to "do its part to bring to a successful conclusion this war."

Their Entrances and Their Exits

This story is based on material in an attractive booklet by Ruth Askenas entitled, *The Lighthouse Players Present,* which has been issued by the New York Association for the Blind with headquarters at 111 East 59th Street, New York 22, New York. It is the story of the little theater company which has been presenting plays since 1923.

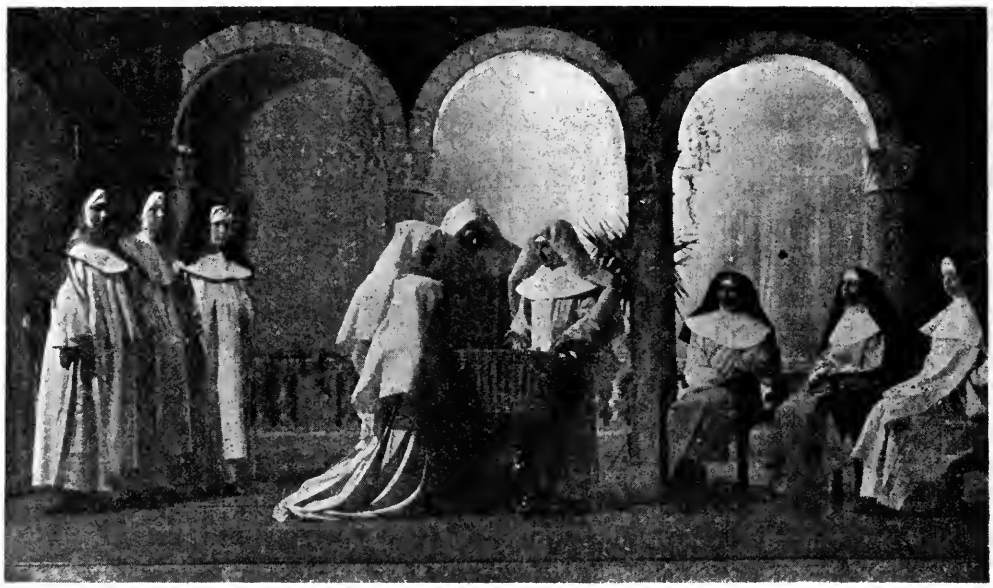
TWENTY YEARS and more ago a group of Camp Fire Girls were at work on a play. They were rehearsing seriously and conscientiously each Saturday afternoon for a production of "The Princess and the Fairy Tale." One of the high points of the rehearsals was the chase of a huge dragon around a fountain by a very young lady. When the play was produced this scene "laid 'em in the aisles." The audience, "with laughter holding both its sides," forgot for the moment to be amazed at what they saw, forgot that the little dragon-chaser was blind. So sure-footed had she been, so completely "in character," so faultless in her sense of direction, that she and her sightless companions had proved to a disbelieving world that the blind *can* make a theater for themselves.

"The Princess and the Fairy Tale" was an end and a beginning. It was the end of an experiment, the beginning of an era of acting at the Lighthouse. The experiment had come about because the founder of the Lighthouse believed that her blind friends would gain, as sighted people gain, in poise, in ease, in freedom of movement, in self-realization and greater understanding of themselves and others from a first-hand knowledge of drama. In realizing this belief she was aided and abetted by the Director of Women's Recreation at the Lighthouse, and by that group of youngsters who were eager to put her beliefs to the test. Everybody concerned felt that dancing should be an integral part of the theater, so the first step in the development of a dramatic program were classes in dancing including the ballet. Enthusiasm ran so high for the whole project that a director was brought in early in the planning so that dramatics would not need to suffer in competition for the time of a leader with other parts of the over-all recreation schedule at the Lighthouse.

Three of those Camp Fire Girls who played together in "The Princess and the Fairy Tale" are still acting together — the pride and the backbone of the Lighthouse Players. Many of the original group have dropped away for one reason or another, but others have taken their places. In the years of their playing they have presented eighty-seven one-act and twelve full length plays. They have writ-

Courtesy New York Association for the Blind

ten plays of their own. They have participated in the Little Theater Tournament for the Belasco Cup. They have presented their plays at Broadway's Booth Theatre and for many groups other than their own. They have financed themselves and have added necessary equipment to their own theater. They have been praised by critics. And they have proven that blindness is not, in itself, a handicap to an actor.



Courtesy New York Association for the Blind

The "Cradle Song" was one of the many plays effectively produced by the Lighthouse Players

Fingers sensitive to braille, strips of carpeting and rubber matting, and seeing-eye dogs have played their part in this drama of dramatics. The Players usually try to find a script that offers them six women's parts and a minimum of men's parts. (The group "imports" the men from sighted folk as guest actors.) In studying their lines they use braille sides. The rehearsal period takes longer for them because they must learn the set and the position of the furnishings, the properties, and the other actors on it. For some time they used strips of carpeting or rubber matting (which was less conspicuous) to guide them about the stage. Now they feel that this is no longer necessary.

Bina and *Sappho* take more or less active parts in the rehearsals. *Sappho* objected with "dogged" devotion and canine volubility when his mistress, playing a part which called for a stage brawl, was struck by another actress! Once the show begins, however, the dogs drop out of the picture to wait for the final curtain somewhere in the rear of the theater.

The actors are all leisure-time theater people. Their days are spent—like other people's—in getting a living. Their occupations vary from work with the blind to work for the United States government. Their lines are learned, their "business" rehearsed, in their off hours. They like all types of plays and, like sighted actresses, they vary in their reactions to playing. The time it takes to learn lines, their inhibitions, the amount of stage fright they are plagued with, varies with the individual.

The Lighthouse Players have had five directors since they have been playing together as a group. The comments of these women are illuminating. The director's task is somewhat more complicated than it is with people who are not blind because she must see to it that the audience is never more aware of the actors' handicap than it is of the play they are presenting. The director, therefore, must train her actors to do those things which the sighted do automatically and the blind can get along without. As an example, a person with sight always looks

(Continued on page 611)

"The study of dramatics trains both mind and body, and this makes it an ideal form of recreation for any person — sighted or blind. The sighted, however, learn through the visual sense, and by imitation. The blind must be taught to visualize a stage set and fit the action of the play accordingly. It would therefore be a definite help to blind people everywhere if dramatics were taught early in the schools. During the impressionable age the students could learn ease and freedom of movement. My plea is for more dramatics for blind children, with dancing emphasized to give grace to their movements." — *Ruth Askenas.*

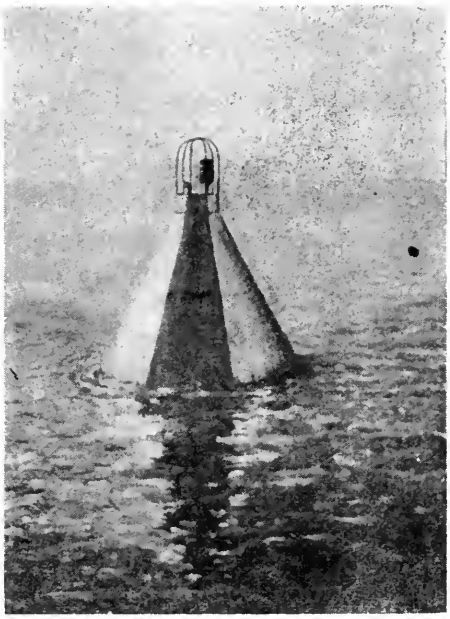
A "Brave New World"

By R. G. G. BOUSFIELD

FACES HAVE A STRANGE, new fascination for me. In trains I study highlights on foreheads, noses, cheeks; the shadows of eyes, chins, hair. How would that old gentleman look on canvas? Could paint catch the almost tangible refractions of light from the unusual planes of that girl's face? The landscape bordering the train tracks that carry me each morning along the Hudson has come into new focus. I watch my fellow commuters, faces buried in their papers, unaware of the early sunlight casting its reflected glory over the snow of the Palisades, or the autumn trees burning red and gold in reckless glory. Factories, docks, breakers, a tenement roof against the sunset, a tugboat, trees, Fifth Avenue's perspectives, move before eyes re-created by new vision.

I have learned to paint. And learning to paint, I have learned to see. All the harmony of color and shape which makes our world beautiful—all the movement and excitement of line and mass—have been revealed to me because I have been cured of an inner blindness.

Painting opened a new world. It forced me to see things I had never seen before. A landscape still creates a general impression of hills and trees and sky. But now I see, too, the subtle gradations of color from foreground to background, the quality of cloud shadows on mountain sides. I live in a new world.



The author's first picture

A still life

My great discovery, like so many others in so many lives, came about by accident. I had reached middle age with no special interest in art. All my time had been devoted to keeping a suburban home, to feeding and clothing four growing children. Then, one day, by the merest chance my eye was caught by pictures in a store window. I stopped idly and looked at them. Most of those paintings were surrealist creations. To me they were very bad, utterly meaningless, even revolting. I felt that any normal person could do a better job.

During the next few days that thought persisted. Somehow "any normal person" imperceptibly became "I" — I could make a better picture than those in the window. I could make a picture that would better please the average eye, convey more to the average mind. I was afraid of my family's skepticism — I might just as well have announced my intention of conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra! But the thought persisted. Gradually it resolved itself into action.

I had an old photograph of a buoy, taken on a summer vacation. The ripples and reflections had always interested me. One night I took another look at it. I was sure it would make a good painting. Next day found me in earnest conversation

with the proprietor of an art store. I told him I wanted to paint, frankly expressed my inexperience. I came away with the minimum necessities for going to work!

I plunged! I worked all week end. I invented colors, methods, techniques, but somehow I painted a picture of that buoy. One of my friends said to me later that I ought to have stopped there! The picture has many faults, but it will always remain a treasured possession. It was my initiation into art—the start of my great adventure. Faulty or not, I had done it and it led me on and on.

I had much to learn. Each successive attempt disclosed more technical difficulties. I didn't realize, for instance, that distant objects must be colder and lighter, or that trees and rocks didn't have to stay where nature put them, but could be rearranged to suit my composition. I realized, too, that before I could paint as I wanted to paint I would have to learn to draw.

An elementary class in freehand drawing solved that problem. At first the class was irksome. But I found that you don't have to be an accomplished artist to do interesting, creative work. Soon my whole week was revolving about the sessions of that drawing class.

My painting wasn't all one, long, happy success story. There were many disappointments. One dull winter morning I watched the sea gulls—flashes of white and gray against the misty sky and the dark, mirror water. For one moment one of the flight poised, almost motionless, a foot or two above the surface. There were two of him—one hanging in the air, the other perfectly mirrored in reverse. In that split second before the bird dropped upon his prey every detail—blue-gray body, white wings outstretched, yellow legs—focussed itself clearly and indelibly upon my mind. I wanted to paint the picture. I *struggled* to paint it. I went to a museum and sketched stuffed gulls, studied the anatomy of their wings. I sought out photographs of gulls in flight. I drew and I painted, but all in vain! I could not convey anything of the spirit and grace and beauty of the image and its reflection.

Despite such disappointments, confidence grew as I learned to handle my medium with freedom and directness. Friends began to express interest and approval. Even my children—occasionally—dropped a word of appreciation!

Why Not You, Too?

Why don't *you* try to paint? Buy a canvas mounted on cardboard, a few assorted brushes, half a dozen tubes of paint, some oil and turpentine, a palette and a palette knife. They may cost three or four dollars — not too much to gamble when the possible gains are so great. And if your first production does not seem worth handing down to posterity, paint your next picture right over the first one. The process may be continued indefinitely until you produce something worth keeping. It's the fun of painting that counts. It doesn't matter whether people admire your work. It doesn't matter whether your work gains recognition for a long, long time — or never. Each little improvement lures you on to make better and better pictures. Always ahead is the hope that one of these days you will express that idea fully and completely. And in the meantime you will have a clearer vision of a world so beautiful and varied that no art can ever reproduce it.

Painting will help you keep your worries and heartaches in their true perspective because they will be viewed against a cosmic background. It won't remove the agony of war, but it will serve as a palliative. As you study the grandeur of great, billowing, white clouds against a summer sky of limitless, deep blue, you may begin to feel something of the breadth and scope of the things which are eternal, things which no strutting dictator can change. Perhaps your awakening to the magnificence and beauty of the world may lead to the conclusion that, in spite of horror and bloodshed, in spite of cruelty and bestiality, kindness and beauty and right will triumph in the end.

"Some day we shall not think of art as a pastime or the artist as one who paints a picture for the library. Art will be understood as a necessary part of every human experience, a means of self-fulfillment and joy. Nor will the word 'practical' mean a fixation of thought upon money and things. We shall cherish every means by which imagination is released and developed, by which perception is stimulated and made powerful. . . . We cannot go on concerning ourselves with things and yet more things, neglecting the joyous release of our personalities in some form of dynamic living."—*David Seabury* in Introduction to *Finger Painting* by Ruth Shaw.

IF YOU'RE looking for an inexpensive way to entertain a large or small group whose high holiday spirit has gone on a down-hill toboggan ride, here's a hot tip. In every bagful of peanuts you'll find a bagful of tricks that offers excitement, fun and laughter—just the thing to wake up in your group the esprit de corps that's so important for successful entertainment. Here's a list of peanut games to choose from — whether you want hilarity or quiet amusement. Peanuts in the shell and a few odds and ends you can pick up around the house are all the props you'll need. Don't worry about breaking the ice. It'll thaw out as soon as your fun seekers start on the Plantation Peanut Hunt.

Plantation Peanut Hunt

This is a good game to break down those chilly barriers that so often prevail early in the party. Hide the peanuts before the folks arrive. Each one is on his own, but may not pick up the peanut he or she finds. The girls must ask the boys to pick it up for them, and the boys must ask the girls.

Peanut Circulation

Divide the group into two or more circles, depending upon the size of the group. Six peanuts are passed at one time, very quickly around the circle. On signal, the passing stops. The person holding the peanuts is required to pay a penalty. For the first offense, he must bend down on one knee; for the second, he must put his right arm behind him; for the third, he must kneel on both knees with both arms behind him. The object of the game is to remain standing. The sudden sharp blow of a whistle or sudden stopping of the music, or other sharp decisive signal may be used.

Three Blind Mice and Three Peanuts

Divide the group into three teams. Place a peanut in the shell for each team on the starting line. The first player in each group gets on his hands and knees and blows the peanut across the floor. Between each blow, he and the rest of his team sing one line of "Three Blind Mice." When the peanut is blown across the finishing line, the contestant picks it up, runs back, replaces it on the starting line, tags the next player who repeats the procedure, and so on down the line. The first team to finish wins.

Twelve Peanuts Go to a Music Recital

Divide the group into two teams—boys vs. girls. Give twelve peanuts to the head of each team. On signal, the head of each team sings the notes of the scale (the boy sings down the scale, the girl sings up the scale) and then passes the peanuts to the next in line. The next in line holds the peanuts, too, while singing the scale before passing them on to his or her neighbor. The object of the game is to sing the scale and get rid of the peanuts as soon as possible to avoid being caught with them at the crucial moment which is determined by the sound of a whistle blown at ten second intervals. Any player caught with the peanuts in her hand when the whistle blows is listed and later required to pay a penalty.

Along the Line

Fasten strong buttonhole thread (one for each team) to the wall. Run the thread the entire length of the room. Put a darning needle in a pin cushion. Place it on a table at the opposite end of the wall to which the strings are fastened. On the same table place bowls of peanuts in the shell (one

bowl for each team) containing exactly the same number as members in the team. Players are lined up in relay formation. The game is started by having the first player in each line thread the needle, string the peanut, put the needle back in the pin cushion and then run pulling the peanut to the end of the string across the room. After touching the wall he returns to the head of his line, touches off the next player who repeats the procedure. It may be necessary to have a nonparticipant hold the pin cushion so that it won't roll off the table while the runners are taking their peanuts across the room. The team whose players first empty the bowl of peanuts, wins.

Eggwalk

Arrange a number of rows of eggs on the floor. Ask for a volunteer to represent each row, to walk along the row blindfolded. Before blindfolding them, however, allow them an opportunity to walk down the row, at a fast pace. Tell them that the one who finishes the Eggwalk first, without breaking any of the eggs, will win. While blindfolds are being put on, unknown to the volunteers, other members of the group replace the eggs with peanuts. The expression of dismay and trepidation on the contestants' faces at the sound of the crunching of the "eggs" makes this a very humorous game.

A Bottle of Peanuts

Arrange several teams, according to the size of the group. The teams may compete simultaneously or in turn. There are two contestants on each team. One holds a milk bottle on top of his head with one hand and a tablespoon in the other. His helper holds a small mirror in front of him with one hand and a bowl of peanuts in the other. The first contestant tries to fill the bottle with peanuts from the bowl using the tablespoon and looking in the mirror. After a certain time limit, score one point for each peanut in the bottle.

Four-cornered Peanut Race

Place chairs in four corners of the room. Two players stand in opposite corners of the room in

front of their respective chairs. Each player puts his right hand palm down in front of him and places a peanut on the back of his hand, and places his left hand behind him. Each player goes around the room in opposite directions and with his right foot touches each of the four chairs as he passes it, and returns to the starting point. And speed is allowed, but there is always the danger of dropping the peanut as the speed increases.

Peanuts Down the Hatch

Select a board at least 12—20 inches wide. The length will depend upon whether you wish to play this game on the table or on the floor. (A pastry board will do for the table game, an ironing board for the floor.) Set it up in a sloping position against the wall. Each player in turn rolls a peanut down the board to the bottom. The player wins all the peanuts which his peanut has touched. If no peanuts have been touched, his peanut remains on the floor.

Put and Take

Make a cardboard circle 6 inches in diameter and divide into seven sections. Write one of the following in each section: Put 1, Put 2, Put 3; Take 1, Take 2, Take 3, Take All. Color one side of the tip end of a peanut to indicate the pointer and pierce the center with a large darning needle. The needle serves as a pivot which is placed in the middle of the circle. The players sit around a table and in turn spin the "pointer" and put and take peanuts as the "pointer" indicates.

Peanut Ruler Race

The players are lined in two teams behind the starting line. The first one holds a ruler with extended arm and places a peanut on it. He walks to a line about ten feet away, trying not to drop the peanut. If the peanut falls, it must be replaced before the contestant continues. After he reaches the finishing line, he runs back, touches off the next in line who repeats the procedure, and so on down the line. The team that finishes first wins.

Peanut Race

Divide the group into equal teams, each facing front. About six or eight feet from the starting line place a box (one for each team) into which the pointed end of a paper funnel has been inserted. Give each person in the team five peanuts. On the go signal, the first person in each line tosses his peanuts, one at a time, into the funnel. When he has finished, he steps away and the second person tries his luck, and so on down the line. When everyone has tossed, the team with the most peanuts in its box wins.

Odd or Even

Each person is given 6-8 peanuts. The object is to get as many peanuts from the others as possible. John goes to Jane with a number of peanuts concealed in his hand and says, "odd or even." If Jane guesses correctly, John must give her the peanuts in his hand. If she guesses incorrectly Jane must give John the number of peanuts he has concealed in his hand.

Nut Shelling Relay

Divide the guests into two or more groups. About 10 feet away, place a pan of peanuts in the shell. At a given signal, the first in each line goes to the pan, shells a peanut, chews and swallows it, runs back, tags the next and goes to the end of the line. The next one repeats the procedure, and so on down the line. The team finishing first wins.

Pass the Buck

Players may sit around the table or in circles on the floor. Select two colors of string and tie a piece of string around each peanut, alternating the colors. One color designates the buck, the other designates the doe. Set one peanut down in front of each player. On a given signal each player passes the peanut to his or her right hand neighbor trying to conceal the color of the string. At ten second intervals a whistle is blown and each person calls out "Buck" or "Doe" depending on the color of the string of the left hand neighbor's peanut. The one who calls off his neighbor's "animal" last is eliminated. The object of the game is to remain active as long as possible.

Peanut Walk

This is part of any party! Mark circles on the floor. Play a march and let all the participants walk around stepping on the circles. When the music stops suddenly the person standing on the lucky number wins a large bag of peanuts. The number of circles drawn depends upon the number of people who are present.

Something New in Education!

By STRONG HINMAN

PLANEVIEW, the seventh largest city in Kansas, with a population of approximately 20,000 people, is located on a high plateau directly south of the city of Wichita. The municipal airport joins Planeview on the southeast, and immediately to the south is the Boeing Airplane factory which produces the famous B-29. The Cessna Airplane factory is about a half mile east. There are 4,382 housing units, all within an area of one square mile. Each of these homes is thoroughly up to date, with a living room, kitchen, utility room, bathroom, and from one to four bedrooms.

This miracle city was built within fifteen months after the ground was broken, and since Planeview is not an incorporated city but a federal housing project, it is managed by representatives employed by the Federal Housing Authority. We have an area housing manager who has been thoroughly trained to administer such a city. He has an assistant who works in close cooperation with every agency in Planeview. There is an area maintenance manager with an assistant, and a resident housing manager assisted by a staff of accountants, clerks, and stenographers.

The residents of Planeview come from forty-two states and represent 225 different professions and occupations. Our city is a typical Middletown, and its residents represent a cross-section of good American law-abiding citizens. According to this year's school census there is a total of 8,159 children under twenty-one years of age. The mothers of almost 3,000 of them work, approximately 1,400 mothers being in essential industries.

It is the object of the Housing Authorities to operate Planeview on democratic principles and as a result they have organized councils in each zone in the city to have a voice in the management of community affairs. The members of these councils are selected by the residents in each zone. Project service advisors are employed to manage each community house and to render assistance to the councils in each community.

How would you like to be able to throw out of the window all the red tape which prevents your doing a good job? Just what would you do if you could start an educational system free from tradition and unnecessary rules and regulations? Given this freedom, what kind of a school system would you organize?

They had this opportunity in Planeview, a community in Kansas developed almost over night to house war workers. Mr. Hinman, who is Assistant Superintendent of the Planeview Public Schools, tells how the school system, which started a little over a year ago with three teachers and seventy-five pupils, has grown until today there are 4,446 pupils and an employed personnel of 188 administrators, teachers, secretaries, and custodians.

The Schools and Their Facilities

The public schools operate as a separate school district under the laws of the state of Kansas, with a board of education of three members selected by ballot by the residents. In the center of each of the three zones of the city is a school building to house elementary pupils. The junior-senior high school, built to accommodate 750 pupils but now serving over 1,400, is located near the center of the city. There are also four nursery schools.

The school buildings are rather unique when compared with traditional school plants. They are well built but free from the architectural adornments which add to the cost of most school buildings. There is nothing "fancy" about these structures but they have been built for utility. They are thoroughly modern in every respect with adequate heat, light, sanitary toilet facilities, and drinking fountains, but nothing has been spent unnecessarily. The walls of the rooms, painted with pastel shades of blue, pink, green, and tan, are very attractive.

Each elementary school is connected on one end with a community building which has a large auditorium, kitchen, and several spacious club rooms. These facilities are available for school purposes, and it is not an uncommon sight to see a class using a club room for moving pictures or a group discussion, or to find a group of teachers preparing a meal in the kitchen for some social occasion. The auditorium is used during the day for school physical education classes or an occasional assembly; at night, for community gatherings, and on Sunday for religious services.

At the opposite end of the school building is a well-equipped nursery for children between two and six years of age whose parents are employed in the war effort. One is available for colored children; three for white children. A staff of trained teachers and other personnel is provided in each nursery. Some of these children are brought to the nursery at 5:30 A. M. and are immediately put to bed. Breakfast is served later, and during the day a well-organized standard program for nursery schools is carried on. This includes midmorning and afternoon lunch and a well balanced hot lunch at noon. A school nurse assists the personnel with the health guidance program, and every effort is made to keep these children healthy and happy while their parents are busily engaged.

The playgrounds back of each school are spacious. Part of each playground is planted with Bermuda grass which makes a fine sod for playing games. Part of each playground is covered with a combination of sand and clay which provides all-weather service. Swings, slides, a merry-go-round, teeter-totters, horizontal bars, horizontal ladders, jungle gyms, and basketball goals are installed on each playground. Supplies such as balls, bats, nets, and other types of play equipment are available at each school and kept in a central place where all may have access to them.

During the past summer an experiment was made in placing all movable supplies in a large room where they were stored on shelves. Boys and girls were given an opportunity to use these materials whenever they wanted to, the only requirement being that when they had finished playing with the article they would return it to its proper place. Many people, including some of our own staff, told us that boys and girls could not be trusted to return the supplies and that this scheme would not work. They recommended that we require boys and girls to sign up for play equipment when they took it from the play room. These people discovered after a few days that it took a lot of their time to check supplies in and out, and they were very willing to try the experiment. The teachers who were in charge of the supplies explained to boys and girls that we wanted them to use them and to treat them as if they were their very own. This was a new thought to some of the youngsters, and most of them responded splendidly. One or two pupils did not understand and took things home with them. When they found out that activities could not go on unless these supplies were available for all pupils, and when the force of public opinion was brought to bear by some of their own playmates, the supplies soon returned to their rightful place on the shelves. The things which these boys and girls learned about the proper use of public property, and the attitude which they developed in sharing with one another was worth far more than the few items which were lost.

The junior-senior high school has well-equipped laboratories for science and home making and is especially fortunate in having up-to-the-minute machines in the industrial arts shops. Boys who enroll in machine shop or woodwork classes do so

with the understanding that they are to produce things necessary for the maintenance of the schools. Last summer, for example, they made and installed screens on all windows in the high school, constructed easels for every classroom, and are busy now making desks, telephone stands, bookcases, and other school furniture. They are developing useful skills and techniques while doing work which is vital to the welfare of the schools.

Attendance

The attendance in the Plainview Public Schools is much better than one would expect from such a cosmopolitan group. We have a census and attendance officer who assists materially in reducing truancy. What may appear to the average citizen as truancy is not that at all; many high school boys and girls are out of school for a few hours, because we operate our high school from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M., making possible a very flexible schedule for students. Some pupils begin school at 8 A. M. and leave at 3 P M.; some come at 9 A. M. and leave at 4 P. M., and others begin at 10 A. M. and leave at 5 P. M. A few come to school on a split shift basis, doing one or two hours work in the early morning and several hours in the late afternoon. This leaves the middle of the day free for work outside of school.

Last summer the schools were open for academic and recreational purposes. We were told that schools could not operate in the summer time because boys and girls would not come back to school once they were released in the spring. Our experiment proved conclusively that boys and girls do not dislike school when it is operated for their benefit and, much to our surprise, more than twenty-five per cent of our last year's winter term enrollment came back and enrolled in our summer school academic classes, attending them regularly. Some of these boys and girls took academic work for credit; others took part in the classes on a remedial basis without seeking credit. A third group of students enrolled and attended for the training and pleasure they received from the work. The elementary schools operated a morning session and an afternoon session and it did not seem to make much difference in the attendance whether children were enrolled in the morning or afternoon classes.

Personnel

The personnel necessary to carry on this educational program totals 188 persons. It consists of the superintendent, assistant superintendent, director of curriculum and guidance, coordinator of visual education, director of census and attendance, director of nursery schools, business manager, chief engineer, principals, assistant principals, teachers, nurses who assist the classroom teachers in the health guidance program, and custodians. The classroom teachers are well qualified for their work.

All teachers in the Planeview Public Schools were called together for an entire week before school opened in the fall. This was a part of their in-service training and each teacher was paid for attending. General sessions, special group meetings, and faculty meetings in each building were conducted throughout the week. All of this paid big dividends because the teachers were able to outline their programs and set up their work so that they could function effectively the very first day of school. Policies were discussed, important aspects of the curriculum explained, individual building programs worked out, and many small details concerning the year's work were arranged during this institute week.

Before the Planeview Public Schools were one year old they were accredited in the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. This was made possible because of the high standard of the teachers and also because of the quality of the offerings in the curriculum.

The Curriculum

The entire curriculum, from nursery school through the high school, is coordinated through the office of Dr. Cloy S. Hobson, Director of Curriculum and Guidance. Made up of the planned and organized experiences which the individual must live in order to achieve a happy, rich, and successful life, these experiences are selected from the list of functions which people perform in life, as outlined in our basic philosophy. They are organized around centers of interest located in the six areas: home, school, Planeview, Kansas, the United States, and the world.

A sound philosophy of education has been adopted as the foundation upon which the curriculum is developed. Revised several times to meet the needs of changing conditions, it is a cooperative venture in which all teachers have participated. Our philosophy recognizes that the schools have certain obligations and states that:

> Educational facilities will be made available for twelve months each year to all residents on the project

regardless of age. For children under five years of age, the nurseries will be maintained; for children from six through high school age, the regular elementary and secondary school program; for adults, various adult educational programs as needs and demands arise.

Guidance will be given in fitness for optimum living within the limitations imposed upon the individual by heredity and environment. Fitness for living, be it in the home, on the farm, in the factory, or at the front, implies freedom from disease or significant deviations from normal structure and function; enough strength, speed, agility, endurance, and skill to accomplish the maximum tasks that the day may bring; and mental and emotional adjustment appropriate to the age of the individual.

Direction in recreation activities will be provided throughout the year.

For the individual, the school will plan a program based on his abilities, aptitudes, interests, needs, opportunities, and social obligations as they are discovered in our study of him, that will help him become a well-integrated and contributing member in our democratic society.

For the family, the school will attempt to develop a membership of socially-minded, self-governed individuals.

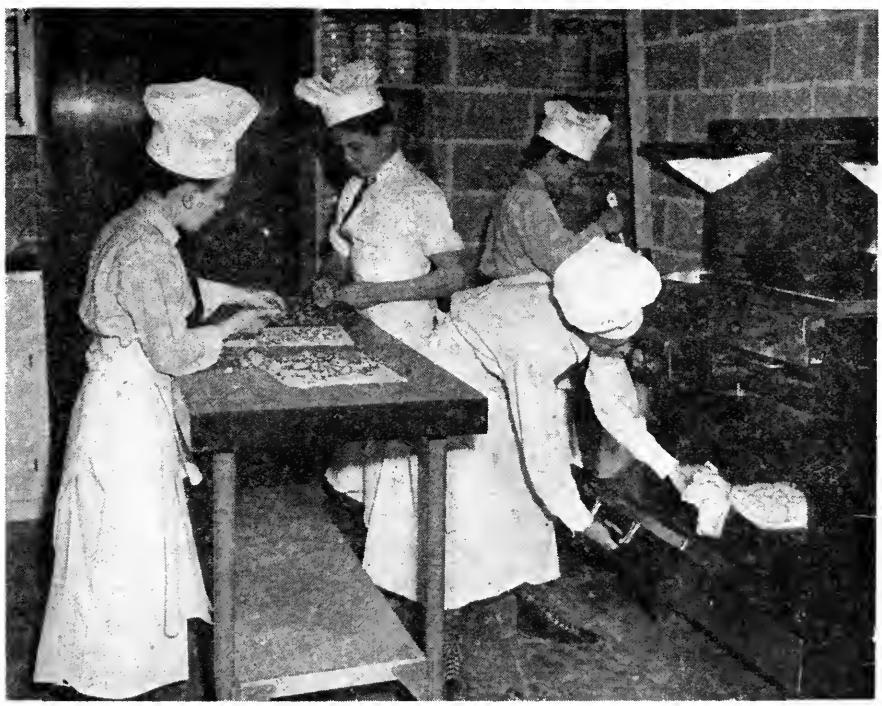
There are no departments in our school system and all such areas of education as music, art, health, and physical education, which are traditionally handled by department heads, are given their rightful place in the curriculum. There are no supervisors of special subjects, hence no competition between groups for a lion's share of the educational program. Each elementary school teacher, for example, is responsible for giving health instruction to her pupils. She does this by means of specific lessons and also through integration with other subjects. A graded course of study is provided for her through the curriculum director. She has full responsibility for giving daily instruction in physical education, in addition to conducting two organized play periods each day at recess. Once a week a helping teacher is available to assist the teacher with the physical education program.

Vocal music is also the teachers' responsibility, and here, too, a helping teacher is ready to assist. In the high school subjects such as English, mathematics, and social studies there are teachers specially qualified to teach these subjects. High school pupils receive specific health instruction in their social studies and science courses which all are required to take. One thing is kept uppermost in the minds of the teachers at all times, and that is the fact that we are teaching boys and girls rather than subject matter.

A curriculum laboratory was conducted during the past summer under the leadership of the director of curriculum and guidance. Principals and teachers were employed to work in this laboratory for the purpose of creating the curriculum which would best meet the needs of pupils in the Planeview Public Schools. The experience gained by the personnel who participated in this curriculum laboratory has proved to be of great value. The contributions which they have made to the curriculum have been equally worth while.

A thorough program of testing is carried on under the direction of our director of curriculum and guidance. Standard intelligence tests as well as various types of achievement and aptitude tests

Cooking classes can be real recreation—whether at school or in a boys' club



Courtesy Madison Square Boys' Club

are administered as a vital part of the total school program. These tests are used in guiding and counseling with pupils and their parents.

Children are placed at various levels in the school program after they have been checked thoroughly. Individual programs are worked out to meet the special needs of some pupils. The guidance program attempts to help high school students prepare for their life's work, and by means of the various testing devices, as well as a study of their total school picture, our director is able to be of great assistance.

A library is being developed to serve the needs of the pupils and teachers. During the past year over 6,000 up-to-date volumes were placed on the shelves to be used when needed. No text books are required in some of the high school courses of study, but pupils are required to prepare their lessons from material in the library. This has made it necessary to purchase many copies of some books so as to provide ample opportunity for all pupils to study.

A coordinator of audio-visual education has been added to the curriculum staff this year. This arrangement makes the pictorial aids a definite part of the curriculum set-up and the learning situation. Pictures are used to supplement and reinforce other subjects such as reading and discussion. Each school has a definite schedule of days when materials and projection equipment are available. At unscheduled times these services are available on call. Picture sets are obtainable in each building, or in the central library. The system is using all the usual or perhaps unusual audio-visual aids—motion pictures, slides, filmslides, flat pictures, maps, charts, radio and recordings, in so far as equipment can be obtained. Some films and slides are rented; others are purchased, depending on the cost. A motion picture in color was made during the summer of the various school activities. It is being shown to all students and patrons in the community.

The Summer Program

Our experiment in the summer school program was built around a regular academic program and a well-rounded recreation program. Kindergartens were established open to pupils who would be entering the first grade in the fall term. Pupils who needed remedial work to help them continue at a given grade level or to go on into a higher one enrolled in grades one through six. High school pupils were enrolled in the regular academic subjects. Some of these worked for credit while others participated merely to brush up a little. A visitor going into a cooking class in the high school would be unable to determine which boys and girls were in the class for credit or for recreation. Boys and girls worked side by side in the manual training shops using hammers, saws, and planes to make things which would be useful to them or to their families. In the sewing classes were found some girls who needed credit, but many were enrolled just for the fun of making their own dresses or cutting down an old one for a smaller sister.

The dramatics class met daily and produced many short plays which were used in the regular weekly evening entertainments. The teacher of dramatics visited each playground regularly and told stories to the children.

A summer recreation band and an orchestra were organized. Pupils who could play an instrument were enrolled in these organizations. The band, as well as the orchestra, helped make the weekly evening entertainments a success. These concerts provided an incentive for these boys and girls to practice regularly during the summer and also made it possible to keep the bulk of the regular high school band in action. The teacher of the band and orchestra worked between the hours of 1 P. M. and 9 P. M., making possible two practice sessions daily. One session was held in the afternoon for those boys and girls who were not employed during that time of day, and an evening hour was provided for those who worked during the day time. An opportunity was given to elementary school children to learn how to play a musical instrument. Many a child was taught which end of a horn to blow into, how to hold the instrument and to make his first note.

These little beginners in band and orchestra worked together throughout the summer and learned to play a good many simple pieces in unison. When they had completed their summer training, their parents were invited to a concert. The parents who attended were amazed at the wonderful progress their youngsters had made in music in a few weeks.

Another experiment in music was to place pianos in each elementary school and make them available to boys and girls for practice purposes. This was done in order that those who did not have a piano in their own homes might practice, and also to eliminate noise which might disturb some worker in the neighborhood who would be

sleeping during the day. Any child who wanted to practice could do so by going to the principal of the school and asking for a time to be assigned to him. These pianos were kept busy throughout the day.

Moving pictures proved to be an interesting part of the summer program. Once a week the children were given an opportunity to see a picture of an educational nature. The same teacher who showed the pictures took the boys and girls on hikes, picnics, and fishing trips. It was quite a sight to see a group of youngsters leaving school to go with their teacher on a hike or a fishing excursion.

Arts and crafts were one of the most popular features of the summer program. At no time were the children told what to do, but they were always encouraged to make something of their own choosing. Free hand drawing, coloring with crayons, painting with water colors, finger painting, weaving with paper and string, making reed baskets, molding animals out of paper, and similar types of activities were carried on at a regular time each day. Materials were furnished to boys and girls without cost, and the finished articles showed much creative ability.

Archery was provided on the high school athletic field each afternoon. Boys and girls came from all parts of the community to take part in this interesting activity. They were allowed ample freedom but were taught safety measures so that no child would be in danger at any time. The children were given responsibility for setting up the equipment, using it, and seeing that it was properly stored at the close of each session. This sport grew steadily in popularity.

Two softball teams were organized at each playground. A schedule was so arranged that both the A and B teams from two schools would play in the same evening. The A teams would play at one school and the B teams at the other. Fathers were encouraged to serve as umpires of the games as well as sponsors of these teams. Toward the end of the season a real community spirit was beginning to develop around the teams.

Each Thursday evening a community-wide entertainment was provided in the high school auditorium with a program put on by the boys and girls of the summer recreation program. The playgrounds closed at 7:45 each Thursday, and the children, teachers, and parents would attend the evening entertainments. There was music by the band and orchestra, vocal and instrumental solos, stunts by individual pupils, demonstrations of group games, folk dancing, tumbling, and usually a moving picture. The dramatics classes each week put on a one-act play, sometimes two. These evening entertainments permitted individuals and groups to entertain their friends and relatives in an evening of relaxation.

Recent Experiments

"Necessity is the mother of invention," and the most recent experiments in education were forced on us. The spacious play and athletic field which adjoins the high school does not have a fence of any description. Our football team has a full schedule of games, some of them scheduled to be played on the home grounds. Paid admissions could not be charged and collected, so the Board of Education decided to finance football as a regular part of the educational program and not attempt to charge admissions. It was an entirely new idea to the hundreds of people who attended the first game and were admitted free. We explained to the students and parents that football is considered a part of the total education program and that we should not charge people to visit a football class any more than we would collect a fee from them to visit a foods laboratory, machine shop, or English class.

The crowds have been well behaved and the response of the pupils and public has been very gratifying. The experiment of conducting free athletic games as a regular part of the total curriculum has been a success.

Another experiment which came about because of overcrowded conditions has to do with the physical education classes. There is only one gymnasium available for boys and girls classes and they must share it when the weather prevents them from working outdoors. The enrollment in some of these classes was so large that it was impossible to do any kind of teaching. Several attempts were made to change schedules of pupils to relieve the crowded situation but they were of no avail. Students were asked to volunteer to drop physical education, but they preferred to stay in the large classes. So school administrators decided to exclude all juniors and seniors from physical education and to conduct co-physical education classes. The instructor for boys conducts the class during one period with the instructor for girls acting as his assistant. The next period the woman conducts the class and the man assists her. Some

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A Serviceman Considers Memorials

"They Died That We Might Live in Peace would look a lot finer over the entrance to a slum-children's playground than on an alabaster vase," says S/Sgt. R.V.W. of the USMC in the "Letter of the Week" reprinted here by special permission of *The Saturday Evening Post*. Copyright 1944 by the Curtis Publishing Company.

DEAR EDITOR: Recently, in the newspaper of a big West Coast city, I saw an article about a proposed World War II memorial. It discussed approximate costs and had a map showing the proposed location. Now, this is not a model city; like most big cities, it has plenty of slums and needy children.

This monument to be dedicated to our revered dead should be stopped. The money could go toward slum clearance, child clinics or any one of a thousand useful projects.

Take it from a serviceman who has been in combat overseas and will be going back shortly, we don't want to be commemorated by any showy and useless pile of marble. We'd much rather see our children benefit by large, well-equipped parks or perhaps a new lighting system or better desks in their classrooms—or anything really worth while.

During the early 20's, a friend of mine took several trips through France. There she saw beautiful marble statues and vases with inscriptions that ran, To Our Heroic Dead, They Died That We Might Live in Peace, and so on. In one place there was a sunken garden with a fountain and other fancy features, and a hired caretaker to keep the lawns cut and the flowers trimmed. It was all very beautiful and very expensive. The money could have kept a small hospital going. People of moderate means were inclined to feel that these memorials were unnecessary and somewhat vulgar. So do I.

The easiest prospect for a high-geared salesman is one who has had a close relative killed, and so misguided citizens influential in city and state politics often succeed in putting over a huge white monument—huge white elephant!— in the midst of need and poverty. Those who have lost sons, husbands or brothers should remember that real improvements can also be specifically dedicated to their dead. For instance, it has long been customary to give rooms and beds in hospitals in the name of a loved one. They Died That We Might Live in Peace would look a lot finer over the entrance to a slum-children's playground than on an alabaster vase, and any man in the service would be prouder to have one small swing in that playground given in his name than all the marble-columned temples that ever wasted good space, time and the people's money.

—S/SGT. R.V.W., USMC.

When Paducah, Kentucky, purchased two blocks of property recently for a "living war memorial" in the form of a municipal recreation center, the action typified a trend which many cities, towns and villages are following in planning memorials in honor of their sons and daughters who died in the present war.

Municipal officials in growing numbers feel that a "living" memorial in the form of an athletic field, a municipal auditorium or a community center, would better present a community's honor and respect for its servicemen.

Reports from a score of cities indicate this feeling on the part of municipal officials and civic leaders, a feeling bolstered in many instances by opinions of veterans' organizations. Various examples will illustrate what municipalities have in mind concerning war memorials.

Muskegon County, Michigan, for example, is planning to erect an auditorium and civic center and a recreation center, while Louisville, is considering the establishment of a Jefferson County memorial park.

Edgerton, Wisconsin, voters recently approved a referendum calling for construction of a $75,000 memorial hall to be financed through appropriations of $15,000 a year for five years, while two Canadian communities—Peterborough and Nepean —are planning to erect community center-recreation buildings as war memorials.

In Toledo, Ohio, a committee composed of the city commissioner of engineering, and representatives of the American Legion, the city commission of publicity and efficiency, and various civic groups, has been ap-

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***The Municipality,* publication of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, tells in its December, 1944, issue of the plans a number of American communities are making to honor their servicemen through living memorials.**

The Work of Our Head and Our Hand

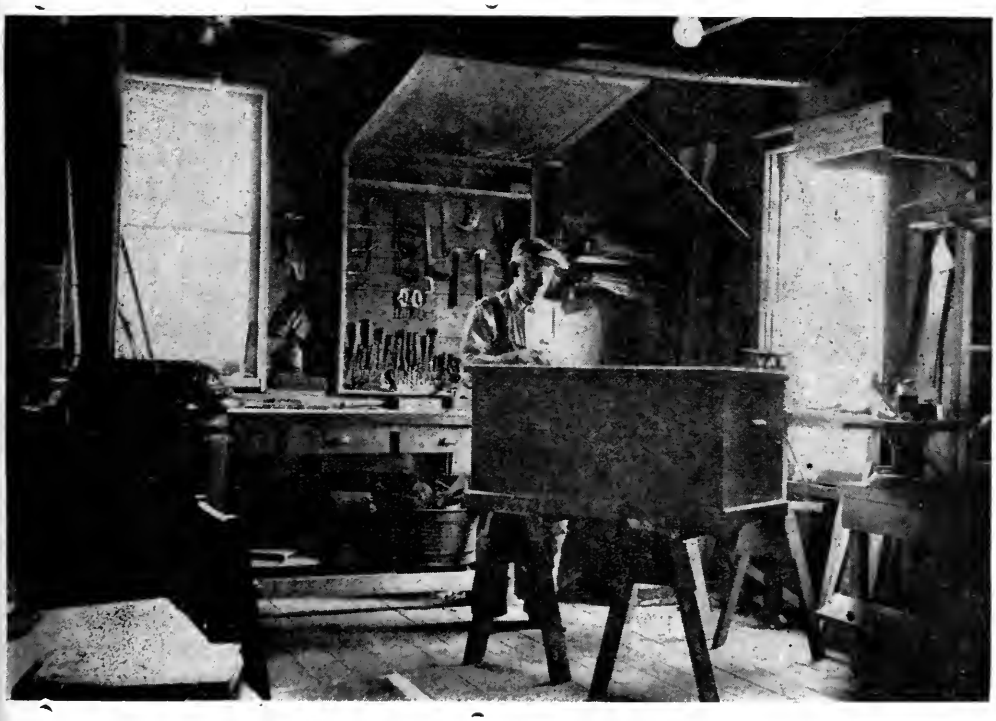
By REBECCA GALLAGHER WILLIAMS
Vermont State Director of Arts and Crafts

WE, THE PEOPLE are coming of age. We are becoming aware of ourselves—as a people. We are forgetting, for bits and pieces of time, to be amazed and more than a little pleased at our young muscles, our sprawling, tempestuous, unrestricted power. We are getting old enough so that, every now and then, "a cup of tea rests us." We are even beginning to be interested in our own history—our own folk ways—a sure sign that we are getting on.

In its infancy and during its pioneering adolescence and youth the people of the United States were craftsmen. Many of them, like Paul Revere, were fine craftsmen with many skills of hand. Partly because Revere took a ride, partly because he worked in silver and brass that endure, his craftsmanship is remembered and cherished and copied. But there were others, humbler people, whose names have long since disappeared with the shards of their pottery, the nails dropped by the horses they had shod. They were those ancestors of ours whose household knowledge was so vast. They knew which plants made the loveliest dyes, which cured fevers, which flavored food. They could string a loom almost blindfold and carve a canoe or a bowl with equal ease. They were music lovers and they made their own fiddles and dulcimers to accompany themselves when they sang to the tunes brought from overseas verses of their own making. Their household needs were beautifully filled for they were endowed with the eye that sees and they drew upon the handiwork of nature for their designs.

They did not, as a rule, commit their lore to writing. By father to son, by mother to daughter, the skills were taught not as "arts" or as "crafts" but as part of the natural and necessary training of householder or housewife. When machines and science first supplemented and then supplanted the work done by hand, much of this skill was lost to general knowledge. It lingered on in areas where the new technologies were slow to come or where a strong sense of family tradition preserved the family wisdom along with the family Bible and the trinkets that great-great-great-grandfather gave to great-great-grandmother when she was sixteen. A few homes, too, cherished the things that ancestors had made. These people and these things are coming into their own again. Ancient coverlets and chests and pewter and glass and patchwork quilts — handled with infinite and loving care — are today providing patterns and inspiration for new craftsmanship.

Typical Vermont craftsman in his home workshop



A veteran spinner uses her old flax wheel to spin a new fibre, aralac

The war has given impetus to an interest that was trickling down from "collectors" and "experts" in craftwork. Imported "peasant art" from Mexico and Switzerland and Austria, from Czechoslovakia and Jugoslavia and the Scandinavian countries had brought about a renaissance of interest in folk arts and folk crafts during the period between two world wars. When the present holocaust in Europe effectively dammed the supply of imports both sellers and buyers of the peasant art type of goods began to look nearer home for supplies. It was apparent that there were people all over the country who had skills as fine, native patterns as beautiful in their simplicity, materials as charming as the people of Europe had used. There were other people eager to learn the processes that would make them, too, skilled in these affairs. But, in general, these people were too unself-conscious about their crafts to know how or where to market the things they could make. Individuals or groups in their communities did what they could to help, but the efforts were scattered at best and were often dependent upon uncertain financial backing to keep going.

In 1941 the Vermont State Legislature, in recognition of this situation perhaps, made a modest appropriation for an Arts and Crafts Service to be set up under the State Department of Education. The purpose of the service was two-fold—to provide a clearing house to put craftsmen and shopowners into direct touch with each other so that the craftsmen could find outlets for their products and the shopowners and other interested people could find products of the kind they wanted for their shelves; and to stimulate interest and participation in arts and crafts among children and young people.

The program is state-wide with headquarters in the State House. Here visitors are interviewed, craftsmen's articles are received for comment and advice, requests for assistance are answered. From the State House offices the Arts and Crafts Service sends field workers throughout the state. In its files is information about shops and marketing centers, data on craftsmen who live in all Vermont's counties, the names of groups and individuals both in the state and outside of it who are interested in the development of arts and crafts.

There is a mass of reference material available to anyone who cares to use it. Information about equipment, supplies, and Federal legislation may be had for the asking. Photographs of craftsmen at work and many beautiful objects made in Vermont are the beginning of a permanent collection of contemporary Vermont handicrafts.

The Service is working more and more closely through teachers and art supervisors in the elementary, secondary, and normal schools of the state. Craftwork as a free-time, out-of-school activity is encouraged. The use of low-cost materials is stressed and visits to workshops of outstanding craftsmen in the community are suggested whenever they are possible. The Service suggests ways

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"Just Some Ideas I Had"

By HOWARD G. SPORE
Physical Education Maintenance Department
Board of Education
Wichita, Kansas

His hands were disabled when he needed them most—but he didn't let that stop him. He was without equipment — but that merely spurred him on. He faced difficulties of all kinds—but they only made him more anxious to get on with the job.

Here is his story — in his own words — as he told it to us for RECREATION. "I can operate a machine, cut leather, tie knots, and make patterns," he said, "but I just don't know the least little bit about this thing called writing."

I CAME to Wichita, Kansas, in July 1922. Two hours after I left my house in search of a place to work, I found employment in a small harness shop. In the latter part of August, the Supervisor of Physical Education of the public schools of Wichita came into the shop. He said he was seeking some one who would do the repair work on the balls for all the schools for the coming term. I told him I thought I would be able to handle it through the shop and we made plans to that effect. The balls were to be delivered to me and picked up again on the following week.

I kept a record of all work done for each school —the number of balls repaired, what kind, and the cost. Just before the close of school the next spring, I took the records of the work over to the Board office, asking them if they would like to have it as a reference. The Supervisor said he was glad to get it, that it was something that they never had before as no one would ever take the trouble to keep a record. Then, too, no one had ever gone through the entire term repairing them. It had been done by first one and then another, and it was impossible to keep a record.

That closed my work for the Board for the time being. During the month of July 1923, I had a bone felon, first on my left hand, then on my right. Being unable to do any hand work at the shop, about all I attended to was the mail. One Saturday toward the end of the month, not having much to do, I left word that I was going over to see about making arrangements for the repairing of balls for the Board of Education during the fall. I got there just in time. The Supervisor and the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds were just leaving the Board of Education shop to see about getting a man to put out on the football field so as to have it in shape for the fall games. I asked if they had anyone in mind and when told they did not, I asked for the position. I said that although I had never done that type of work, I felt sure I would be able to do it satisfactorily. I was told to report for duty on the following Monday morning. I was given a small key to the main gate on the athletic field. That was all the equipment I ever had handed over to me, all the responsibility I had at the time.

When I opened the athletic field that morning it was far from inviting. At one time it had been an alfalfa field. The field and a very large portion of the playfields had been under water during the spring flood, which was the largest Wichita had had for several years. No one had been working on it. Sunflowers (for which Kansas is noted) stood a foot higher than the eight-foot fence. Later I had to use a Boy Scout ax to cut some of them down, they were so large and tough. The base filling for the quarter-mile cinder track had been hauled in, piled up along where the track — some day — was to be, but that also was about hidden with weeds and sunflowers. It was everything but a pleasant sight, and to make it that much harder, I faced all that with one hand that I could use a little and the other one in such shape that I hadn't slept much for three weeks— going every evening to have it burned out with caustic.

With the one thought in mind, "Nothing attempted, nothing gained," I started in. I took a scuffle hoe and cut off everything that grew above the ground on the football field. There had, at one time, been some Bermuda grass roots planted, but they were few and far between. When I found any I left them grow. Going back over the ground after clearing it of weeds, thistles, and Mexican sand burrs, I kept all the Bermuda runnners covered up, planting more roots in the bare spots. I kept sprinklers going all the time. In some cases I had to use just the open hose, but I kept it well-watered. It was so late in the summer before I started my work that not all of the grass had time

to become firmly rooted by fall. But I did have a nice clean field—a nice, green gridiron and the rest of the field all cleaned out.

The new high school building that was being erected was supposed to be done for the opening of school, but it was a month late. I didn't have much of any place to do any repair work of any kind, so I made me a bench in front of a window in the football field house. The bench was two foot long and not much wider. I used a few hand tools of my own which I had brought from home. When cold weather set in, I had to move from my field house workshop. The high school hadn't been released by the contractors yet, so I moved into one small corner of the supply room, and there once more I set up a small bench. When the school finally opened, the gym was turned over to me to take care of. There wasn't enough work for two men on an eight hour day, but too much for one to get done in that time. I agreed to take it all over, working as many hours as was needed to get all the work done. A twelve hour day was what I called my short day.

By 1925 I thought I could fulfill a dream that I had had during all the hours when I was all alone out on that football field the first summer. That was to build up a department capable of doing all our own work — making most of our equipment and keeping all of it in repair; putting a stop to all the trouble of finding some one to do it, then being held up when we did find him!

I told my plans to the Superintendent, but he informed me that school systems never went in for making sporting goods equipment. I told my plans to our Supervisor, and asked for a couple of yards of canvas to make a thirty-inch cage ball. I was given an order, and I bought the material, went out to the gym, laid the material on the floor, and on my hands and knees I cut it out to pattern. In the back of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, on an old, second-hand machine, I sewed it up. When I put the bladder in, all my hopes and dreams faded. That cage ball, without a doubt, was the sorriest looking piece of work I have ever seen! A field pumpkin had a far better shape. I finally decided I had cut the material the wrong way of the goods, trying to save material. I still felt sure I could make that ball. My second attempt turned out beautifully. It was perfect! When it was presented at the Board meeting, I was granted my request to buy a machine to make cage balls for our own use and to help in doing other sewing that might come up. The amount of money that was granted me was enough, by shopping around a little, to buy two machines. The next request I made was for a motor for my machines. That was granted, and from time to time I laid by a supply of the equipment I needed to build the department.

I had as yet to try out my biggest idea—that of making inflated balls for the grade schools. Material and equipment for that would run into money, but step by step I built up to it. Out on that football field my first summer I laid plans that I thought would take about ten years to complete. My ten years were to be up in July 1933. The Board passed on my last project, that of inflated balls for the grade schools, in April 1933. I beat the goal I had set into the future by three months.

At the present time I am manufacturing 194 different pieces of equipment for our school system —anything from a keyring strap to a six-foot push ball. Our playfields and athletic fields have been expanded until now we have thirteen tennis courts, and during the spring baseball tournament we can, if called upon, lay out eight official diamonds and still have room to spare. All the ground not used for the school lawns is serving as playfields. The larger portion of them are planted in Bermuda grass and kept mowed.

After several years of work, the most of which I did after my working hours here, I have made as complete a set of sports records as it is possible to make—of basketball, football, golf, swimming, tennis, track, baseball, and wrestling. For basketball and baseball I have all games played back to the first year they were played by our high school. Football started in 1894, basketball in 1902. The girls played basketball the previous year, but the boys wouldn't have anything to do with it, saying it was a "sissy" game. (How this world has changed!) I keep the wins and losses, all percentages worked out both for the year and the grand total for all games. I have records of all players' names and positions, and the coaches. I have another record of all the coaches compiled together, giving the number of years they coached each sport, wins, losses, and their percentages. It's rather amusing sometimes to hear some one brag about a certain coach, telling how grand he was. Then, when the records are referred to, Oh what a mistake! My regular set of records are for use in any way that the school, newspaper, or broadcasting stations want, but those of the coaches are not for public use. (You can readily see why they

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Recreation
New Obligations—New Approaches

By HARRY A. OVERSTREET

Extracts from address delivered by Dr. Overstreet at the luncheon meeting, Tenth Annual Chicago Recreation Conference held November 22, 1944.

WHEN WE THINK of the birth and growth of the American nation, we invariably think of three institutions: town meeting, school, and church. Each of these was serious in aim and function. The town meeting had the job of wrestling with the problems of the community; the school, of stimulating and training the laggard juvenile mind; the church, of keeping men from going to the devil.

Something, however, is omitted from this usual characterization of our country's development. America was not born wholly in seriousness; nor have the typical qualities we call American been nurtured exclusively in an atmosphere of practical-minded concern. A good case could be made for the thesis that the practice of freedom in America and the love of it were given their expression and strong support by institutions that were not serious at all. There was, for example, the barn dance—as typically American as the little red schoolhouse or the steepled church. There was the corn-husking; the quilting bee; the county fair; the hog-calling; the Saturday night band concert; sandlot baseball; the Halloween party; the picnic and the clambake; the spelling bee; the church social; the Thanksgiving dinner; the Fourth of July parade and fireworks.

These were America in the mood of having a good time; America putting aside the compulsions of business, work, chores, lessons, legislating, and doing what America wanted to do.

Not all the doings were always worth while. Some were foolish; some vulgar. But the important fact was that Americans thus made areas of freedom for themselves. In these areas of freedom they built the kind of world—of folk fun and laughter—they wanted to live in for the time being. It did not matter greatly if nothing "practical" came out of these play worlds; that they were as insubstantial as air. The important thing was that Americans made these imaginative worlds for themselves, and that in making them they learned, through their folk fun, the ways of free people. Even when, as in the case of the barn-raising and the quilting bee, useful work was done, it was still done in a fashion that let the workers pretend they were playing. It was work without a ball and chain attached.

One of the early American sports which persists today and will be popular as long as there are small boys and snow!

There is something here that seems to account for a certain quality found in the American type of freedom—a jauntiness and lack of pomposity; a certain power to take things gaily in one's stride; to be neither overpitying of oneself nor overglorifying; to make a joke even when things are crashing. It seems to account for a certain resiliency—bounce—in the American character.

"Swing your partner—all join hands." People who could stomp through the calls of the square dance—sweaty, laughing, shouting—would not be likely, the next day, to be ugly, backbiting, and absorbed with secret maneuvers. People who could yell at the umpire

in the sandlot baseball would not be likely to sit around at night manipulating hidden deals against one another. People who could pack up the old truck with picnic baskets and all the available children and grown-ups could not help but have a certain gusto in life. Such people would have in them the stuff out of which freedom could be made.

We are apt to think of freedom too exclusively in terms of impassioned speech making, or of heroic defense against an enemy. It is important to think of it also in terms of play. Play is one of the most essential laboratories of freedom. Psychologists tell us that there is no transfer of skills; yet we may be daring enough to guess that a people bred in the freedoms of play—particularly of folk play — gain something by the rough and tumble and give and take of such play that makes their other freedoms more robust and assured.

Knowing People Through Play

People who don't play with one another are not apt to know one another very well. Work all your life in the same office with a person, and you may know very little of him. When he comes into the office he puts on his office self. He trots out his office abilities and his office interests. The rest of him he holds in abeyance. But go fishing with him, or play poker, or compete with him in a gunny sack race at the County Fair, and you may be surprised at the things you never knew about him!

Play shows up more sides of people than does work. Work occupies only part of our attention-span and brings out into the open only certain qualities in ourselves. These may not be the most important, the most delightful, or even the most detestable. They will simply be the qualities called for by the work requirements and the work environment. Hence those of us who know people as merely fellow workers are not likely to know them with all-roundness and thoroughness of understanding.

Democracy, however, requires that its citizens be wise about people: in other words, that they have a kind of "people-sense." This is obviously necessary, for the citizens of a democracy have to vote at frequent intervals for the ever-shifting small army of their rulers. If they have little experience of people they will make blunders in their choice that are too costly for a democracy. Again, as citizens of a free society, they have to make laws for themselves and their fellows. If they don't adequately know their fellows (the white-Negro situation is a case in point); if they don't really know what they want and need, have no common feeling with them, they will not be wise in the laws they make.

Hence a democracy is powerfully helped along by citizens who have the habit of playing with one another. Things go bad when too many citizens take their pleasures by their individual selves or with their small intimate groups; sit in their rooms twirling a private dial and listening privately to what comes over the air; or occupy a seat hired for their private use in a theater and sit insulated by the dark. Citizens of a democracy who never play together miss the chance of really knowing one another. They suffer the danger of splitting up into sets, cliques, classes, and castes.

Play—A Basic Freedom

Play is no trifling afterthought in a democracy. It is one of the basic freedoms, because it is itself both the expression and the strengthener of freedom.

Recreation, therefore, is not a secondary concern for a democracy. It is a primary concern; for the kind of recreation a people make for themselves determines the kind of people they become and the kind of society they build.

Unfortunately, this is still far from being understood in America. We still drape a solemn Puritanism about us and intone that life is real and life is earnest and a bank account is but its goal. We still feel that if we venture to do the things we want to do, simply and solely because we like to do them, we are dangerously near to yielding ourselves to the improvidence of the devil.

We as a people need to know, far more truly than we now do, what the life of the free spirit means. It is the life that fulfills itself on all fronts.

"Music in every village . . . not merely canned music or air-borne music, but music played by the people themselves; music made intimate and lovely by direct creation and participation.

"Plays in every village . . . people learning to write and act the plays themselves.

"Artists in every village . . . farmer, storekeeper, mechanic, learning the delights of color and design.

"Study groups in every village . . . learning history, science, politics, philosophy, economics; learning to search out ideas.

"Is this fantastic? Or is this not of the very essence of the American Dream?"

Courtesy Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, Philadelphia

People come to know one another better when they play together

Most Americans have deplorably little chance to live their life on all fronts. In countless villages, towns and cities, on hundreds of thousands of farms, they live a life limited and drab; confined within the mere struggle to survive. They live the kind of life that breeds the prejudices of ignorance; that builds up ungenerous partisanship and a mean exclusiveness of class and caste. They do not live the kind of all-around life that makes people fit for a free society.

We need in these days to develop a sounder and more comprehensive philosophy of freedom than most of us now possess. Most of us get as far as "freedom of enterprise" and think it means simply the freedom to do business as we please. Freedom of enterprise should, however, come to mean the broader and deeper freedom to use all our powers of body, mind and spirit in activities that help to make the life of all of us more greatly livable.

We have talked hitherto of ourselves as a people whose job it was to conquer a continent. We come now to the time when, with a continent fairly well under control we turn to ourselves and ask what has been left unfinished within us. Our next job, we now begin to see, is to release the more authentic qualities in ourselves; to make ourselves into a people wise and generous and inspired enough for the enterprise of democracy.

Building a Better America

Now when all things are in a flux; when a tragic war has stirred us to the depths; when we are thinking of a future that we hope is to be in many ways different from the past, we need to resolve that the America we build will make better chances for all its people.

A society, to be rich in culture and democratically great, must have institutions that tap more than the practical, self-centered, competitive impulses of its people. It must tap their generous and creative impulses as well.

This is what those old institutions of folk-fun did. They gave Americans a chance to be free in ways that were good for everybody; ways that made people friendlier; better acquainted with one another; more ready to cooperate and help.

We need a modern program for the building of a more soundly democratic culture. In many ways we have departed from the democratic ways of the fathers. We no longer, for the most part, live as neighbors, but as strangers in towns and cities. We no longer play together but go to see people play for us. We no longer put hands and minds together as neighbors to do a common thing that

needs doing and that feels good in the doing. We hire a contractor. Our highly concentrated economic society has chiefly brought out in us the self-centered, self-isolating, competitive impulses.

A program for America needs to aim at two things: (1) to call out the non-competitive, non-self-centered impulses; (2) to induce people to experience their pleasures together instead of too exclusively in private.

Importance of the Recreative Arts

Here is where the recreative arts become a powerful aid in the building of a democratic people. These arts do so many different things for so many different people that they can play a major part in making people fit for a free society.

In the first place, the recreative arts can be one of the best preventives of juvenile delinquency. They can help save our young people. They can give them the chance for group association where they can make friendships; where they can have a sense of "belonging"; where they can create their own areas of freedom. Delinquency among young people is largely a matter of insecurity and boredom; of having nothing to do that is interesting or worthwhile; of counting for nothing. Recreation can give to them pro-social ways of getting the excitement and pride in participation that young people need.

In the second place, the recreative arts can build a high morale among people. Morale, as Gordon Allport has said, is the sense of feeling equal to the situation. To play with others, or voluntarily to pursue some worthwhile interest with others, gives the individual a sense of knowing people; of knowing his own powers; and of knowing his way around.

In the third place, the recreative arts can serve all sorts of therapeutic purposes. This is aptly illustrated by the project started at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City to give free courses in art in order "to help discharged veterans find their way back into civilian pursuits and pleasures."

> "Former soldiers and sailors will receive free instruction in sculpture, ceramics, drawing, painting, woodworking design, jewelry, metal work, book illustration, wood engraving, graphic arts, silk screen printing, lettering, layout, typography, and weaving. Whether these men use it for recreation or for professional development directed toward new and better positions in the various fields of applied arts and crafts, the underlying purpose of the Veterans' Art Center will be not only to bridge the gap between service and civilian life but to give the veteran impetus and aid toward a happier and more successful life than he had before the war."

In all kinds of ways we are learning that creative work undertaken for the pleasure of the work itself is one of the best medicines for those who are broken in body or mind.

In the fourth place, the recreative arts can serve in more ways than can be easily enumerated to release the healthy energies of people. Our routines demand much of us in the way of self-denial. We have to suppress certain desires in us; keep from doing things we would like to do at times when we would like to do them. The recreative arts give us our chances to do the things we want to do. They are an important way of letting off steam. When we engage in them we feel the singular relief of being ourselves; of being free agents; of being beyond the compulsions.

Finally, the recreative arts can serve powerfully as integrative forces in community life. Boys of all classes can play together on the neighborhood baseball team; different neighborhoods can play together. People can come together to hear music; to see plays. People can sing together and yell together.

We have here, then, in these five functions, a test that can be applied to any community. To what extent is it using recreation to help young people escape the bore-

If they begin at a art of playing toge

dom and the aimlessness that easily lead to delinquency? To what extent is it providing recreational opportunities where morale is low? To what extent is it making use of the recreative arts for restoring those disabled in body or mind? To what extent does it open opportunities for those releases of energies that are essential to everyone living in a highly routinized society? To what extent does it integrate its people through the arts of common enjoyment and common participation?

Filling the Gap

We might define recreation as "whatever people do to fill the gap between their established routines and what they think of as the good life."

With some of us the gap is very small. Our established routines—in business or profession—are themselves the kind of life we like to live. Our work, we say, is our play. With others of us the gap is wide; there is little in the established routines that we like. Our hopes for the good life have, therefore, to be found outside the routines.

Society is made up of all kinds of people with all kinds of gaps between what they are compelled to do and what they would like to do. Those who organize recreation in a community have to remember all these different kinds of people and respond to their different needs. Fundamentally, however, there are three major things that recreation leaders in a community have to do:

(1) They have to make people who are completely caught in a routine aware of the neglected parts of themselves that they could enjoy if given a chance. This might be called the "awakening" function of recreation leaders. Their job is to call attention to the opportunities a community offers for the pleasurable use of leisure time, and to make those opportunities so attractive that routinized individuals will drag themselves out of their routines.

(2) They have to encourage people toward those forms of recreation that are on the side of good feeling and fellowship in a democratic society. Not all forms of recreation are democratically good. Gambling, cock-fighting, low forms of dancing may work positive harm. The job of recreation leaders is to create a love for the kinds of recreation that make people more fit to live with themselves and their fellows. This might be called the "directive" function of recreation leaders.

(3) They have to supply the actual situations in which people can enjoy such recreation activities as go beyond the individual's capacity to supply for himself. For example, the individual cannot be a discussion group by himself; or provide himself with a series of lectures; or stage a play with himself as playwright, actor, director, and audience. Opportunities have to be provided for experiences in situations that go beyond the individual himself. This is the "organizing" function of recreation leaders.

age to learn the much the better!

Courtesy Minneapolis Morning Tribune

Moving Toward a Free Society

There is a time of great confusion and bitterness ahead of us in America. Never before have there been so many persons uprooted. The soldier has been uprooted. He will return a stranger to his land; perhaps a stranger disabled in body and spirit. The war worker has been uprooted. He lives in an alien city. His children go to school with alien children. He and his family have nothing stable enough in their lives to encourage them to send down their roots into the community life. And because he and his family are aliens, there is not a happy or helpful relation between them and the people of the community.

Never before in America has there been so vast a migration of its people: its young men and women in the services moving over the face of the globe; its soldiers' wives entraining from camp to camp, picking up their suitcases and

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I've Seen Their Faces

By NANCY WILSON CASSADY
Charleston, West Virginia

IN THE SPRING of 1943 at a well-attended Junior League meeting, Mrs. C. Paul Heavener, the City Recreation Director, made a moving appeal for our aid and interest in a fairly new city recreation project—the Boys' and Girls' Club—where boys and girls of our city could gather under supervision to enjoy parties, games, classes, dances, sports, reading, and dramatics in their own clubrooms.

We all believed the Boys' and Girls' Club to be of vital importance, so the Junior League and the city became co-financers of the project. The Junior League set apart eleven hundred dollars for a year's operational expenses of the club; the city furnished the rest. The clubrooms are easily accessible to children who need a wholesome place to spend their leisure time—and are rent-free.

A committee of Junior League members took over the responsibility of organizing the club and directing the program. Our professional director, Miss Lola Whitecraft, is in charge at all hours. The boys and girls of the club elect their own officers from their membership, and are largely responsible for the administration of club policies. They meet with Miss Whitecraft to discuss club matters, and assume other responsibilities such as collecting a small admission charge for the dances. They turn this money back into their club for improvements and this year they have paid back the Junior League for the boys' basketball and football uniforms. Junior League volunteers work in the well-equipped library and supervise activities in the big room where there are ping-pong and billiard tables and large, substantial tables for blocks, modeling, coloring and painting. There is also a sandbox, a piano, and last, but not least, the all-important juke box. Some volunteers conduct classes in knitting, painting or dancing.

At night it is the teen-agers who take over; younger children are not admitted because there is not a separate room for them, and the older girls and boys will not come if we mix ages. The juke box, ping-pong, and billiard tables are the chosen entertainment of these older girls and boys. Their offices and responsibilities also mean a great deal to them.

Courtesy Berkeley, Calif. Recreation Department

In the afternoon all ages are welcome, and they flock in immediately after school by the dozens — all sizes, all temperaments—swarming to the play tables. The boys hurry to the boxing room. Miss Whitecraft is besieged for this and that game or service, and questions rain around her. The volunteer workers are seized around the waist or legs, anywhere the smaller children can reach. A boy comes up the stairs followed by a dog with his tail straight up in the air. A little girl carries a thin, but ingratiating, grey kitten. A ten-year-old boy carries a small baby brother around with an amazing tenderness and occasionally puts him down for a few minutes while he plays with other ten-year-olds. There is a black-eyed, twelve-year-old boy, husky, full of personality, and a thin, spunky little girl of about eight who exudes dry wit with every lisp. (We searched frantically at library closing time one day for a book for her about the pilgrims—"pildrims," she called them—because she said she had to have it for school the next day. "Oh Dod," she remarked casually when, finally, we had to close without having discovered the desired treasure.)

I have looked through the partly open boxing room door and have seen the ropes around the ring dancing, jiggled by the feet of little boys who were eagerly watching the bout. It gave a singular appearance of animation, for from where I was I could not see the little boys, only the jumping ropes.

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Getting Publicity

By S. W. MORRIS

"Fortunately," says Mr. Morris," there are very few recreation departments who do not recognize the usefulness of publicity. The principal difficulty handicapping many recreation officials is lack of knowledge on how to promote free space in the newspapers."

In this article Mr. Morris, who is Executive Editor of the Writers' Section, Office of War Information, gives some very practical suggestions on how to secure space and what to do with it when you get it!

RECREATION activities constitute news and therefore deserve a place in newspaper columns. But unless those entrusted with the programming and supervision of recreation events are publicity-minded, unless they develop a "nose for news," and unless they know how to maintain a cooperative liaison with editorial rooms, public participation and attendance figures will definitely mirror their journalistic inadequateness.

Publicity is advertising, and it comes gratuitously only if it can bear the stamp of legitimate news. There can be no question that every recreation department, no matter how small, has legitimate news to purvey. It is, therefore, not difficult to get space in newspapers if recreation executives make the right approach.

It's Well to Know the Editors

First of all, it is good "politics" on the part of the city recreation director to develop the acquaintance of both the city editor and the sports editor of each paper. Your chance of getting material printed is considerably enhanced if these editors know you and if you have diplomatically solicited their cooperation.

Secondly, learn the identity of the reporter assigned to "cover" recreation news and then assist him in every way, making it easy for him to gather the news. This can be done by the preparation of press releases giving all necessary information about an event, phoning him the news, or giving him the information when he visits your office daily.

Recreation departments located in sizable metropolitan cities generally do not receive very good reportorial coverage, therefore they must rely on press releases which are mailed or otherwise delivered to each city desk or sports desk. A press release is a better medium than telephoning in news, unless of course you have "spot" or right up-to-the-minute news which must catch the first edition.

The Press Releases

Generally someone in the recreation department can be assigned to the preparation of these press releases. He or she should have the complete information and should make the release as detailed as possible allowing the newspaper to use everything or to "boil it down" to whatever size it desires.

It is important to remember that press releases should be typed double spaced, and in the upper left-hand corner should carry a notation such as the following:

FROM:
City Recreation Department
Randolph 7915
Extension 1120
John Doe

In the upper right-hand corner should appear a line to indicate whether the release is for immediate use or for a certain day, thus:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE or FOR RELEASE
THURSDAY AFTERNOON PAPERS

The press release should be complete so that the city desk or sports desk will not find it necessary to call back to clarify some point, or get information which had unfortunately been omitted. The release should answer the questions: WHO, WHEN, WHY, WHERE, WHAT, and HOW. Try to follow newspaper style as much as possible. A study of the columns will prove helpful.

Things to Keep in Mind

When the recreation department has planned a large city-wide event—for example, a playground track meet, a kite flying contest or pet show—it should use advance promotion by issuing stories daily, providing the papers with some new information in each release. It is not compulsory to write different stories for different papers; carbon copies will suffice. However, a word of warning should be dropped here. Never favor one paper over another. Be fair in distributing your news. Don't show partiality to the afternoon papers, for instance, and thus prejudice the morning dailies against you.

Another important fact to remember is that when the event or contest is over the results should be given the press immediately. Don't wait to phone or send in the results twenty-four or seventy-two hours later. Always report today's news today!

Newspapers like to print names. Include as many as possible in your stories. Be sure of your spelling. Newspapers also are receptive to oddities, unusual news. Examples: oldest playground in city, pitcher of no-hit, no-run game, girl who brings pet duck to playground daily, etc.

Press releases are not as necessary in small cities as they are in cities 300,000 or more in population, for example. In all probability the recreation department will be on the "beat" of the small city reporter who generally covers board of education news. Typed information will be appreciated, but you can deliver your news vocally to him.

Whether you are in a big city or in a town you will find the sports editor generally cooperative about using news of sports events. A good proportion of recreation news will generally land in the sports columns. So cultivate the friendship of the sports staff.

It is an excellent idea to provide both the city editor and the sports editor with your weekly, city-wide calendar of recreation events. You will find them willing to print the schedule.

City recreation directors should insist that all playground directors cooperate with the press in reporting their own respective activities, either by phone or by a typed story sent by mail.

Do not protest if some of the submitted stories never see print, or if they are condensed to the size of a bulletin. The fate of your recreation news will depend on a number of factors such as space limitations and news interest.

About Photographs

Be alert for picture ideas. Recreation departments are advised to remember that photographs are excellent publicity media. Pictures always attract attention in newspapers. Get in touch with the picture editor, or, if the paper has none, the city editor, and persuade him to send a cameraman to an event.

Any city-wide recreation event—a championship marbles tournament, for example—is worthy of photographic coverage. Tip off the city editor or sports editor as to the time and place and give him some ideas for potential pictures. In all likelihood a staff photographer will be assigned to make some shots.

Whether any of the pictures actually see print will depend to a large degree on the recreation leaders in charge of the event and on the cameraman himself. Let him shoot what he wants; never insist on any particular pose. His experience qualifies him to know the qualities of a good news or feature picture. Help him by providing caption material, especially by jotting down the left-to-right identity of the people posing.

If the paper should find its space limited because of a big war story or spot war photographs, for instance, and your picture is crowded out, it would be wise to approach the photographer and induce him to make a print or two for the records of the recreation department or for display purposes.

Where two or more newspapers serve a city, it is recommended that all papers be notified simultaneously of a picture possibility. Never tip off one newspaper exclusively and ignore the others, as this is possibly fatal to future cooperation.

Sometimes there is an amateur photographer who is willing to shoot some scenes of playground activities which a newspaper might accept for publication. The print should be a glossy one and 8 x 10 inches. The amateur cameraman would feel himself amply repaid if he were to see his picture in the paper. Reliance on amateur photographers, of course, is unnecessary if the daily newspapers maintain their own photographic staffs.

Other Publicity Mediums

Not only will the daily newspaper use your recreation news, but community weeklies also will be very receptive to all items concerning activities going on within their own circulation areas. Playground leaders should visit the weekly paper, develop the friendship of the editor, and submit local playground news, preferably typed.

Don't hesitate to be detailed, as these weeklies are generally hungry for material, particularly if it includes names of people in the community. A chat with the editor

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Writes a recreation worker: "The maximum possibilities of the press have not been used for real interpretation of the benefits of recreation, its needs, purposes, and underlying values. More ingenuity should be employed to get these basic reasons before readers of newspapers, since increasingly people need to be reminded of the values if they are going to continue to support recreation either by contributions or by votes."

Postwar Planning for Recreation

"Most of the ten to twelve million men who are now in the armed forces will have learned to live together. From one-half to three-quarters of them will have traveled to foreign lands. All of them will have had their horizons broadened and their vision expanded."

This in itself presents a great challenge to the communities to which these servicemen will return. How we at home are to meet the challenge was the subject discussed by Lieut. Comdr. Mathewson at the annual meeting of the New Jersey Parks and Recreation Association held at Newark, New Jersey, December 13, 1944.

By Lieut. Comdr. F. S. MATHEWSON
District Welfare and Recreation Officer
Ninth Naval District

THE MOST IMPORTANT goal toward which every man, woman, and child should be working at the present time is the provision of essential supplies for the front line in larger and larger quantities. On the other hand, men coming back from the battle areas will want to find that the people on the home front have kept pace with the times. Planning for the future development and expansion of parks and recreational opportunities for them and their families will be in keeping with their ideas and will merit and receive their approval. It is therefore fitting that planning in the field of recreation should begin now.

In a talk before the American Institute of Park Executives in Indianapolis, I spoke at some length of the large number of war casualties known as neuropsychiatrics. Their condition is brought about in many instances because these men cannot live and work together with others or follow the routine of military life. We must prepare the youth of our country for this routine. We must prepare them physically, mentally, and sociologically to accept the sociability and comradeship which go with military life. Compulsory military training if it becomes a reality will make this essential. But in any case this is the same friendship and comradeship which make normal community life worth living.

"Boys and girls who learn to play together, boys and girls who are good teammates, will make good neighbors"

Courtesy Lancaster, Pa., Recreation Association

The parks and recreation program will probably have a bigger part to play in this program in the future than it has had in the past. Boys and

girls who learn to play together, boys and girls who are good teammates, will make good shipmates and good neighbors and good friends.

Life in the Army and Navy has, it is believed, in many instances created a greater interest in sports and games. The country as a whole is alive to the need for a comprehensive health program. With over 4,000,000 young men found ineligible for military service, some definite steps must be taken to improve the nation's health. Physical education and health programs on the preschool and public school levels will play a big part in any health program which is adopted.

A closer check on and correction of teeth, tonsils, heart, eyes, and other remedial deficiencies must be a part of the community health program of the future. All types of sports, games, and contests as promoted by the community should occupy an important role in the physical maintenance of our people. "Physical maintenance," meaning the maintaining of our physical bodies to a high efficiency level, will be the topic of much discussion in the future.

Today in the army hundreds of thousands of young men are learning new skills about which they are most enthusiastic. Schools of every conceivable type are being conducted. Men are getting an equivalent of a college education in a few months. Fighting in small compact units such as a tank, a PT boat, or a bomber, has developed a "team" spirit to a great degree.

Trends to Be Considered

There are so many trends today that have every indication of affecting the future pattern of society that it is impossible for one to touch on them all in a talk such as this in the time that is allotted. I shall, therefore, refer to only a few of those of which postwar planning in recreation should take cognizance. Some of the developments of the past few years that must be considered in any postwar planning for recreation are:

The increase in juvenile delinquency, the increased needs for recreational leadership, the expansion of the industrial recreation program, the teen-age center, the need of more recreation facilities for older people, the higher age of economic independence for youth, the Negro and white racial problem, the establishment of living memorials for our war heroes, the growing interest in state and federal departments of recreation are only a few of the trends of the time.

In spite of the millions of children in our schools today and the youth problem with which we are faced, statistics show that we are becoming a nation of older people. Serious consideration, more serious than I have observed, should be given to types of recreation for older people.

Thousands of men and women who are working today and are active on the production lines of our war plants, will retire after the need for the expanded production has been reached. Churches, schools, parks, public recreation systems must expand their programs to provide for these older people. Greater opportunity for service to public organizations and to the community must be made available to them. I know of no finer example of service to his fellowmen and his community and state than the life of Albert W. Drake, our late Treasurer. Upon retirement, he gave unstintedly of his time and energy to public projects conceived for the welfare and benefit of his fellowmen. We need more men like Albert Drake in every community.

Studies conducted by the University of Michigan show conclusively that for the past several years the trend toward the age of economic independence for our young people is getting higher and higher. It is becoming increasingly difficult for young couples to gain a financial position which enables them to marry and establish homes of their own. This condition will have an increasing effect upon society, an effect that is so far-reaching in its influence that it staggers the imagination.

In a year or two there will be four million young men between the ages of nineteen and twenty-four looking for jobs. These men have been doing a man's work for the past two or three years. They will be mature in spirit, mind, and body; anxious to marry, to establish homes, and to get their roots down into the community. These men, fresh from military service, will be given the first choice of such jobs as may be available. They are entitled to these jobs and all of us hope they will get them.

But what will happen to the millions of other young men and young women who will be graduating from high school and college during the next few years? It is doubtful if the job opportunity of the last four years will exist.

Compulsory military training will not be the complete answer. Certainly the WPA, CCC, or NYA is not the answer. There must be something better than this type of program. Free enterprise in business, if allowed to function fully, would help materially. Production alone will not solve the

problem; there must be a ready market for our enterprise.

Recreation certainly is not a substitute for work. Play will not, and should not, take the place of a job. Hobbies, nature study, arts and crafts, dramatics, music, and sports, valuable as they all may be in creating culture in America, find their greatest role avocationally rather than as a substitute for a vocation. Yet, because of the harvest which might result from seed sown by young people forced into idleness, we who are concerned with these problems must plan now for the future. Remember, it was the youth of Germany who, discontented with their lot and with no hope for the future, become the willing disciples of Hitler and the believers in his doctrines. If you think he didn't do a good job, all you have to do is to talk with some of the German prisoners now in America! They are still unconvinced of the folly of their Fuehrer and his program.

Courtesy Philadelphia Council of Social Agencies

The opportunity for the young men and young women to engage in wholesome sports, the chance to occupy the leisure hours in creative activities may be the salvation of this nation, should it find itself faced with the type of youth problems I have suggested.

To meet this need there must be expansion in all phases of the parks and recreation facilities, as well as leadership. The cost will be considerable, but none of us dare say that we, as a people, cannot afford it. We do not dare *not* to afford it.

The colored and white racial problem is facing America today as it never has in its history. Recreation is a stabilizer. It can play a great part in helping America solve this great problem. If we don't solve it, God help America!

During the past two years I have seen bad patterns, and I have seen some good patterns designed to meet this problem. Out of this emergency I hope we may find the clue to our future progress in this field of social planning.

As I travel about the thirteen midwestern states comprising the Ninth Naval District, knowing as I do the status of park development on the eastern seaboard, I am convinced that New Jersey as a state must accelerate its park and parkway program if it is to keep pace with its sister states.

Opportunities for New Jersey

There are great possibilities in New Jersey for bringing the out-of-doors to our citizens, and our citizens to the out-of-doors. I refer to the expansion of our parkway system, the acquisition of two or three seashore parks, the further development of our state, county, and municipal park systems, the improvement of our streams and rivers as recreational facilities, the halting of pollution, and the establishment of a national park in the sand dune area of South Jersey. These and many other natural resources place New Jersey in a fortunate position. It should not delay action until it is too late.

I was glad to hear this afternoon that an appropriation has been granted to acquire the Delaware and Raritan Canal. The initial work is soon to be started. When it is completed, this canal will provide a much needed water supply not only for industrial purposes but for recreation as well. This project, it is hoped, may be developed all the way from the intake on the Delaware River to a suitable point at or shortly above New Brunswick. As you well know this association has for several years advocated and supported this improvement.

The contact with nature by the masses of people

(Continued on page 606)

The Minneapolis Parade Center

In preparing plans for the future development of The Parade in Minneapolis as a great city-wide athletic, sport, and general recreation center, many conferences were held. The final conclusions reached have the unanimous support of members of the Recreation Department of the Board of Park Commissioners, and the proposal is endorsed by the Board of Directors of the Minneapolis Municipal Athletic Association.

The plans were prepared by Karl Raymond, Director of Recreation of the Park Department, and A. E. Berthe, Park Engineer. We present extracts from Mr. Raymond's report to C. A. Bossen, Superintendent of Parks.

WAR TIME is a time of decision when we bring in question our old procedures and attempt to evaluate them in the light of developments. At this very hour we, as a nation, are bringing in question our foreign policy. We are examining our traditional methods of conducting our relationships with other nations, and our destiny for years to come will be determined by the decisions made in the next few months.

We are beset on every side by evidences of concern for the postwar world. We learn of a department store that has applied for a license to operate an autogiro delivery service; we read of postwar homes to be heated by the sun's rays; of automobiles using an improved fuel enabling us to get forty to fifty miles on a gallon of gasoline.

Some of these things may come to pass, and some of them may not. We do not know. There are certain things, however, that we do know. We know that there are now more than eight million men and women in the armed forces of the United States and that this figure is scheduled to be eleven million by July 1; that everyone of these eleven million will have been subjected to the physical development program of the armed services. We know that after World War I sports and athletics enjoyed the biggest boom in history, and there is every indication that this development will be repeated on an even larger scale after this war.

We know that, according to the recent report of the President's five-man medical board, in recent months, draft boards and induction centers have been forced to reject as unfit forty-six per cent of all men between eighteen and thirty-eight; that among United States males of eighteen years, who should be at the peak of good health, one out of four up for induction, is unfit for combat.

We know that there has been an alarming increase in the rate of juvenile delinquency on a nation-wide scale, and that though this rate has not increased on a large scale locally, there is much room for improvement in our treatment of adolescents.

These considerations are of utmost importance to all agencies, public and private, that have to do with the public welfare. They are of broad significance nationally, but they are of no less importance locally.

Physical fitness and juvenile delinquency are not exclusively the concern of a department of public recreation, but they are two factors of great importance in the determination of department policy. Along with factors of local significance which are explained subsequently, they form the basis of this proposal for the erection of a city-wide recreation center at The Parade.

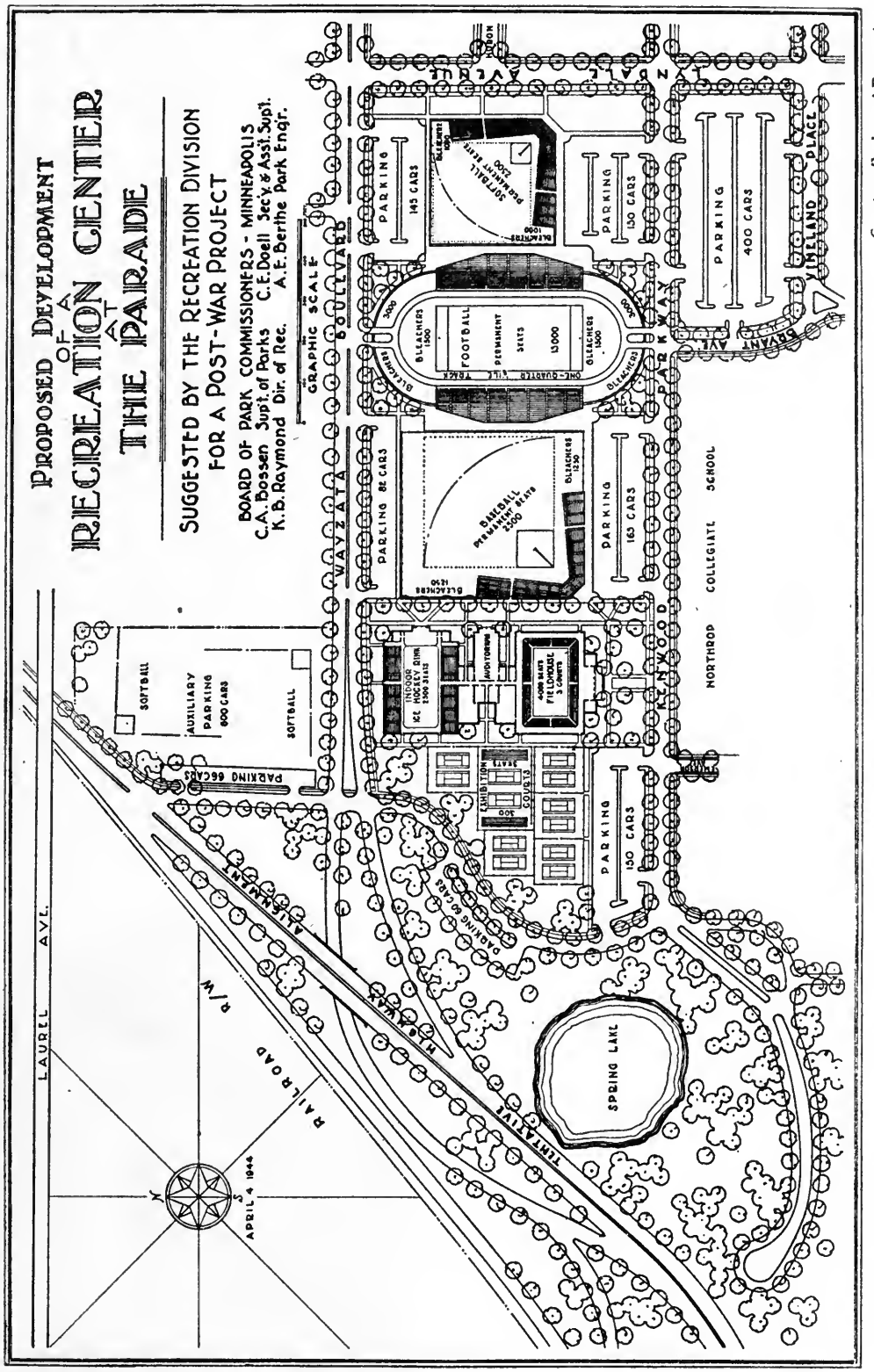
The Parade Recreation Center

The Center is divided into four general units: 1. Field house and community center; 2. Indoor ice hockey rink; 3. Athletic fields; 4. Tennis courts.

Field House and Modern Community Center. This unit would include an indoor recreation center designed particularly to meet just the situation which has received so much public attention in recent months, that of providing a center with a congenial atmosphere under tactful supervision for the social activities of adolescents. In it would be included a combination assembly hall with stage and gymnasium, a lounge for informal reading and quiet games, an arts and crafts work shop, two or more club or committee rooms, a social room, a snack bar, a kitchen, and a service and storage room.

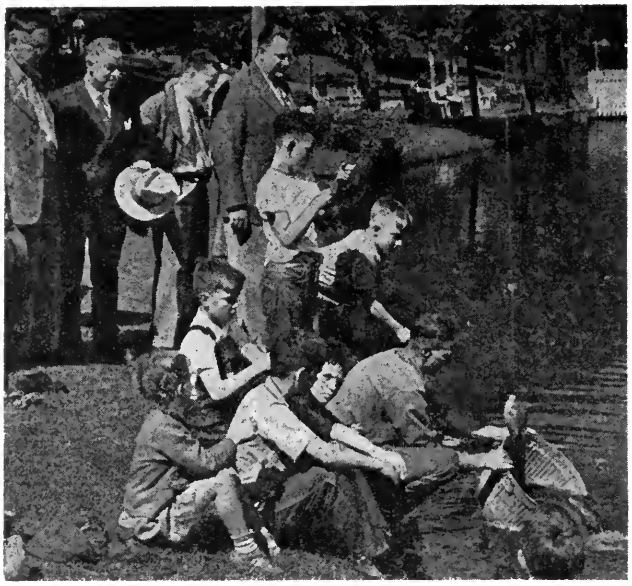
Conveniently located to the community center proper would be the facilities for indoor sports such as bowling alleys, rifle range, archery range, shuffleboard courts, and golf driving nets.

Such a center would be unique in that it would provide not only a social center for the exclusive use of adolescents, but also a headquarters for little theater groups, arts and crafts projects, and social and hobby clubs which could be promoted by our Recreation Division on a city-wide basis on



Courtesy Parks and Recreation

The Recreation Center at The Parade proposed in the postwar plans for Minneapolis has for its principal features a field house and community center, an indoor ice hockey rink, athletic fields, and tennis courts. There will be adequate provision for the parking of cars.



Courtesy Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners

a more comprehensive scale than is possible at present. These facilities would be contained in the wing adjoining the field house.

The field house proper containing an arena with sufficient floor space for three basketball courts and permanent seating for 4,000 persons, will fulfill the greatest need — facilities for conducting a comprehensive indoor program in sports and athletics. It will solve our problem as far as indoor facilities are concerned, and very likely will prove very popular for the staging of community events.

Indoor Ice Hockey Rink. This unit would contain an arena approximately 85′ x 200′, the official size for ice hockey, a seating area for 2,500 persons, a lobby and ticket office, a warming room with refectory stand, and an artificial ice plant.

An enclosed rink where temperatures and ice conditions can be controlled will serve as many teams as four outdoor rinks which are perfectly maintained. It should not be overlooked that such a structure would also lend itself to general skating and the instruction of figure skating, and would provide opportunity for an enlarged program of league hockey.

Athletic Fields. Separate lighted fields for football, baseball and softball are contemplated under this unit. The football field would have seating capacity for from 15,000 to 20,000, a press box, a refectory stand, and other facilities. The baseball field would have stands with a canopy and a seating capacity of 2,500 persons, a press box and a refectory stand.

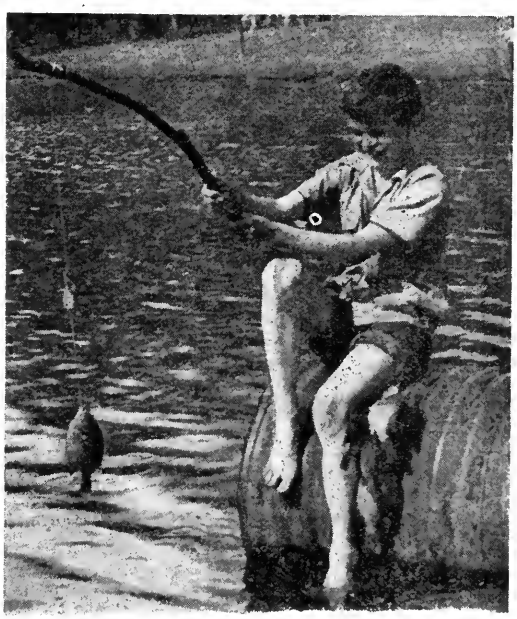
These three fields all adjacent to The Parade center building would be an enlargement of and improvement over the present facilities for these sports at The Parade now. Under the proposed plan they would provide a better method of crowd-handling, better accommodations for spectators, and a larger seating capacity.

Tennis Courts. The arrangement of the tennis courts would be substantially the same as it is now. It is planned to have twelve hard-surfaced courts arranged in groups of two, with permanent seating for a minimum of 500 spectators. Four courts would be lighted for night play, among which would be the exhibition courts. The present tennis building would be eliminated and its features would be incorporated into The Parade center building. Maintenance cost would be lessened through hard-surfacing.

(Continued on page 614)

Mr. Raymond points out in his report that the cost of the proposed recreation center would be $1,098,117.60, and he compares this with the expenditure of $1,989,622 by the University of Minnesota for the Coffman Memorial which serves a student body of 15,000.

"If it is to the interests of society to provide equipment and facilities for sports and recreation for individuals through University age, then it must be equally important to provide such facilities not only for the younger generaton but also for men and women after their formal education has been completed."



Courtesy Minneapolis Star-Journal and Tribune

The Pleasures of Reading

By R. B. HOUSE

This is one of a series of articles on "Faith, Work and Play in Wartime" by the Dean of Administration of the University of North Carolina. It is reprinted by permission from the November 1944 issue of *Popular Government*.

I THINK ONE of the greatest joys of reading for fun is now and then to run across a new book which seems to be especially written for one's own self. In reading Ferris Greenslet's *Under the Bridge,* I came across a reference to Lord Grey of Fallodon and a quotation from his address on *Recreation* to students at Harvard, about 1920. I went down to the library to find and read this whole address, and found that it was not only separately published, but was a part of a larger work, *The Fallodon Papers,* published by Houghton Mifflin in 1926. I have been delighted with these essays on the pleasures of reading, the pleasures of observing birds and outdoor nature in general, the pleasures of fly-fishing, and of Wordsworth's *Prelude* — Wordsworth is the favorite poet of Lord Grey. Every one loves confirmation of his own ideas and efforts in a given field. For over fifteen years I have been preaching the gospel of recreation as a means of refreshing people who have to work hard and seriously, so as to send them back to their jobs invigorated in spirit, mind, and body. In fact, running through my series of articles is something of this philosophy of enjoyment, and Lord Grey, in his essay on recreation, states practically every main point that I have been trying to make; hence, I have annexed his volume as one of my main resources.

First of all, I should like to praise the calm, happy spirit of repose which runs through these essays. Lord Grey, in World War I, is comparable to Anthony Eden, and to some extent Winston Churchill, in World War II. He liberally gave his time, his health, and his strength, to the service of his country; and like Milton, he even gave his eyes. These essays were not written at all. They are talks which he made after he was too blind to write. They were taken down by a stenographer and corrected verbally by Lord Grey when they were read to him. And yet, there is not a single note of unhappiness; he is perfectly matter-of-fact about hardships and tragedies that strike all of us in life. But, and this is his main point, there are spiritual, mental, and physical resources of enjoyment in which every man, no matter how trying his condition may be, can find strength.

"Recreation" is Lord Grey's name for what I have been calling "enjoyment." Recreation, in Lord Grey's thought, is not the most important thing in life at all. He lists the following elements of a good life in the order of their importance: (1) a moral basis for action; (2) a reasonable share of domestic happiness; (3) a job of work which gives a man a stake in his day and generation; (4) a reasonable amount of leisure. And then his entire theme is the wise use of this leisure.

Lord Grey advises every person to try games enough to find out what sort of games he may enjoy. In the second place, he advises everyone to keep alert to sportsmanship. He pays a tribute to golf, but says that he never made a golfer and never would. His game is tennis; but over and above his enjoyment of tennis is his passionate enjoyment of fly-fishing in running streams. His essay on this sport is truly enthusiastic and artistically done. I am not a fly-fisherman myself, but it is a joy to hear a man talk about his own hobby in such convincing terms. Lord Grey says that a hobby of this sort must be one which the sportsman has loved for a long time and knows enough about to enjoy it in anticipation and in reminiscence when he cannot be actually employed in the sport itself.

After some practical advice on games and sport, Lord Grey recommends gardening as a recreation which increases in richness and satisfaction the longer one engages in it. And gardening, along with fishing, helps to introduce us to one of Lord Grey's main themes, Nature, which he talks about under the idea of appreciating the beauty of the world. He says that our appreciation of this beauty may amount to no more than seeing what sort of weather it is day by day. He is a country man and says that, at least, it is always some sort of a day, in the country. But he, himself, has not stopped there, and his book is full of wise and poetic, and at the same time, acutely accurate

(Continued on page 613)

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

"*AQUATIC Plants* of the United States," by Walter Conrad Muenscher. Comstock Publishing Company. 374 pp. Illustrated. $5.00.

"Bellamy, Edward. It was more than seventy years ago that Edward Bellamy was writing about nature recreation, according to Dr. Arthur Morgan in his *Biography of Edward Bellamy* published by the Columbia University Press. The biography, which Dr. Morgan started as a hobby, proved so fascinating that the brief story grew into a volume.

Bellamy was a true nature recreationist. He tried to get others to have the same fun which, he pointed out in one of his editorials, Horace Greeley wished that he might have had.

"Horace Greeley often expressed a desire to go afishing, but he never found time; and now he is dead and will never have another chance. Had he taken a little pleasant piscatorial exercise every year, he might have been alive still. All work and no play was too much even for his strong constitution, and the great brain has stopped working prematurely. . . .

"Let those who would wish to avoid Mr. Greeley's fate make time to go afishing. . . . It will do them a world of good, and probably not hurt the fishes much. It does not make much difference how or where people go afishing, if they will only go." — From "Go Afishing," *Springfield Union,* May 20, 1873.

"Whether there is anything more in nature than we ourselves put into it in the way of beautiful and grand impressions is very much like the question whether the statue is in the marble before the chisel of the sculptor has formed and revealed it."—*Edward Bellamy* in *Springfield Union,* August 20, 1874.

California. "Adventure in Scenery," by Daniel F. Willard. Jaques Cottell Press. 438 pp. Illustrated. $3.75. Geology and climate for the general reader.

Earth Science. "Enough and to Spare," by Kirtley F. Mather. Harper. 186 pp. Illustrated. $2.00.

Forest, Memorial. The Goodwill Conservation Club, Madison, Indiana, has purchased ninety-seven acres of land in Jefferson County for a recreation area. It will be named Camp Riehl-Cranford in honor of the Club's first two presidents. Special markers will be placed at the base of certain trees in memory of those who gave their lives for their country

Insect Collections. "How to Make Insect Collections." Extension Bulletin, Michigan State College, March 1944.

Insect Life. Merit Badge Pamphlet, published by the Boy Scouts of America. $.25.

Nature Education in the Sierra Mountains. "One Day on Beetle Rock," by Sally Garrigher. Alfred A. Knopf. 224 pp. $2.75. An accurate nature book interestingly written.

"Naturalist's Lexicon," compiled by Robert S. Woods. Abbey Garden Press. 282 pp. $2.75.

Plants. "Travelers All," by Irma E. Webber. W. R. Scott. $1.25. Basic facts for children about how plants go places.

Reptiles and Amphibians "They Hop and Crawl," by Percy A. Morris. Jaques Cottell Press, 253 pp. $3.50.

School Forests, Jamestown, N. Y. The first school forest at Jamestown was started in 1927 with 250 acres in the township of Poland. It is now producing revenue and, better still, it is a nature study laboratory in which the community takes pride.

"Seashore Parade," by Muriel L. Guberlet. Jaques Cottell Press. 200 pp. Colored plates. $1.75.

Snakes. "Poisonous Snakes of the Eastern United States," published by the North Carolina State Museum, Raleigh, N. C. $.10.

What Is Important? One of the most important things for every child to discover is that it is fun to explore the world about him. This discovery he can keep with him always.

WORLD AT PLAY

Kansas City Plans Outdoor Stage

PLANS for the erection of a large municipal opera stage in Swope Park have been authorized by the Kansas City Park Board. The proposed stage, which will be used for both opera and orchestra programs will contain ample scenery storage space and underground dressing rooms. Amplifiers will be arranged to carry the music over an area that will accommodate an audience of at least 10,000.

According to an article in *Musical America,* "The high success of the present summer orchestra and band concerts has encouraged the park board to look forward to successful musical presentation of wider appeal and higher value. Cooperation with St. Louis in the presentation of operas has been assured and Kansas City itself has much splendid talent to draw upon."

The Kansas City Civic Orchestra and Municipal Band gave nightly concerts this summer which attracted crowds of 2,000 to 4,000 listeners.

A Chinese Service Club

SEATTLE, Washington, has a club for Chinese servicemen which provides many forms of recreation, has a large lounge, library, game room, snack bar, check room, and information center. It is sponsored by the Chinese civilian population of Seattle to provide hospitality for their own race serving under the United States flag.

The Lights of Fresno

AS SEPTEMBER turned long summer afternoons imperceptibly into long winter evenings, most recreation programs moved indoors. Not Fresno, California! That well-known climate meant September and October evenings still warm enough to lure youngsters and oldsters into the open for play when supper was over. The playgrounds, shining cheerfully under night lights, were ready for them, and in spite of a manpower shortage that made the going tough at times, the playing fields have been alive with old and young, servicemen and civilians, going about their happy (and lawful) occasions. Touch football has been the most popular game, but others — softball, crack-the-whip, basketball, tennis—have kept pleasantly occupied many boys and girls who might otherwise have been "roaming 'round" the streets.

Allentown's Municipal Opera Company

ON DECEMBER 6, 7, and 8, 1944, the Municipal Opera Company of Allentown, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Allentown Recreation Commission, presented the opera, "Roberta."

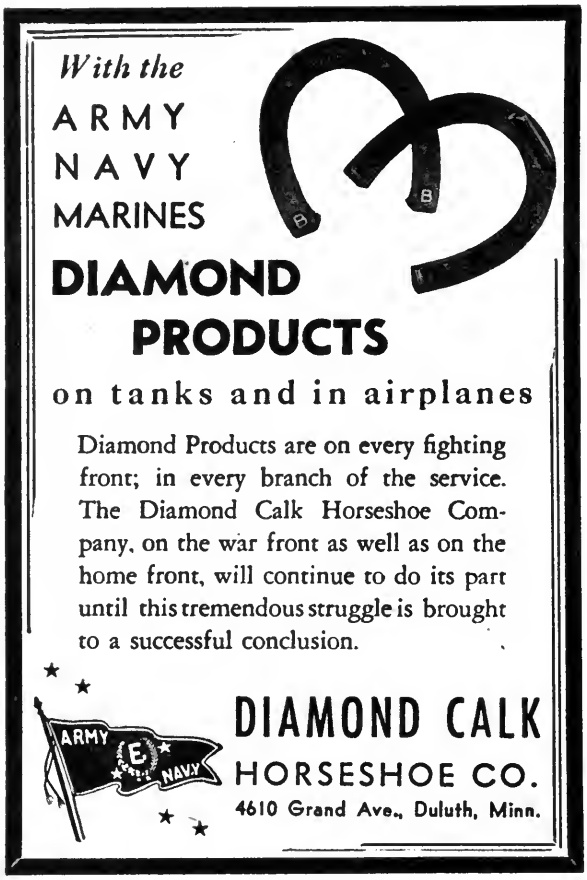
The Company is now in its sixteenth season and said to be the oldest opera company in the United States sponsored by a recreation commission. In a summary of operatic activity in the United States, prepared for the National Opera Association by the publication director of the Metropolitan Opera Guild of New York in 1941, the Allentown Opera Company was listed as the sixth oldest opera company in the United States.

While Children Play

TAMPA, Florida, "Moms" are finding new and stimulating experiences when they take their youngsters to spend the morning at the Hyde Park city playground. While the mothers keep one ear out for that yell that is unmistakably junior in difficulties they are learning to make things for beauty and use from materials native to the Florida scene. The group's teacher finds enthusiasm running high among her pupils and skills improving among them by leaps and bounds.

Photography Exhibit

MEMBERS of nine camera clubs of the San Francisco Bay Area Council of Camera Clubs put their best prints on exhibition in December. The pictures had previously been entered in an Inter-Club Competition— a sort of round robin tournament. Each club entered ten prints in the elimination contests and these were scored by judges chosen by the clubs concerned. A preview of all the prints was held for club members in November.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A Community Orchestra — The Recreation Commission of Danville, Virginia, is well embarked on a new project. From nearby counties in Virginia and North Carolina, as well as from the city itself, people have brought their musical instruments to form a community orchestra. The amateur musicians practice one night each week under the direction of a trained and experienced musician who has volunteered to train the group. This project was dreamed up last winter in order to offer local musicians a chance to play with an organized unit, and to provide music for the public's pleasure.

New Studies Under Way—The Department of Social Work Interpretation of the Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East 22nd Street, New York 10, N. Y., announces the initiation of two new studies —one dealing with public relations policies and practices of the Young Men's Christian Association; the other with case work interpretation as practiced by agencies affiliated with the Welfare Federation of Cleveland. Two of the studies in this series have been published and may be secured from the Foundation. The first, *A Study in Public Relations* (1943), is based upon the public relations program of the Pennsylvania Department of public Assistance. The second, *Building a Popular Movement* (1944), has to do with the public relations of the Boy Scouts of America.

Jungle Gyms — The MacGregor-Goldsmith Sports Bulletin for October 1944, tells a tale of G.I.Joe's recreation activities in the jungles of a South Pacific island. "Take the Fourteenth Evacuation Hospital, for example," says the Bulletin. "Here the completion of the hospital was followed by the building of a two-block square athletic field. A powerful 'cat' was called into service. Through a towering cluster of trees it helped to clear and level a surface that looked like nothing more than a large parking lot. But in this clearing a softball diamond was laid out. Tree trunks and bamboo poles were used as supports in making volley ball, basketball, and badminton courts. Bamboo strips joined vertically by strings provided nets. A boxing ring, theater stage for plays, and screen for movies were set up. Teams were organized to compete in various sports. A field day was held and prizes were awarded to winners."

Silver Anniversary — Twenty-five years of continuous service is the record of a community center in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The Douglass Community Association is celebrating its Silver Anniversary in 1944. There will be a special program commemorating the special occasion. The main event of the year is a membership campaign, its goal 800 members. The Douglass Community Association's idea of recognizing a birthday is to spread its service to more people.

Making Barn Dances Popular—Over a year ago, when attendance of the barn dance group at Palmer Park, Chicago, dropped to about thirty people, it was decided to reorganize the group on a club basis. Music was supplied by records and by a group of musicians who also enjoyed dancing. Usually there were at least three instruments to help provide music. No one was paid for his services so if a musician wanted to dance, he did just that! Food consisted of sandwiches and drinks. One Saturday night, at the regular monthly dance held outdoors during the summer, hot dogs were grilled over the portable charcoal grills. It was not long before attendance reached an average of seventy.

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The enrollment fee of $35 will bring you the specially written text, an opportunity to apply the text material to your own recreation problems, comments of an authority in the field on each lesson assignment, and a certificate upon satisfactory completion of the work.

One enrollee recently wrote, *"Truthfully I cannot remember any effort on my part which has paid off in dividends so quickly."*

Send Inquiries to

THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois

Decatur, Illinois, Gives Its Report—The sixth Annual Report (May 1, 1943 - April 30, 1944) of the Playground and Recreation Board of Decatur, Illinois, states that the recreation program was operated in thirty-two locations in all sections of the city with an attendance of 616,658 participants and spectators, and with 35,000 different individuals taking part. There were 540 organized recreation groups participating in the program and using the facilities.

Decatur's recreation system is supported by tax funds, and recreation tax referendums were passed in October 1936 and July 1942. The first tax money (⅔ of one mill) for recreation was received in May 1938 and an increase of ⅔ of one mill in May 1943. The tax levy for recreation is now 1⅓ mills. Local city funds spent for recreation have increased from approximately $21,000 in 1938-1939 to $47,421.82 in 1943-1944.

The Problem of Safety—The *Statistical Bulletin* of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for November 1944 points to the alarming number of fatal firearm accidents among children. In 1942, the last year for which official figures are available, gunshot wounds killed 671 boys and girls under fifteen years of age, 94 of whom were under five years old, nine of them being infants.

In 1942 or 1943, 137 children insured in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company died from accidental gunshot wounds. The large majority of these accidents, about two-thirds, occurred in their own homes, but there was a sizable percentage who were mortally wounded in the homes of young playmates and relatives.

In addition to the children killed in homes, 49 youngsters in this insurance experience were accidentally shot while playing on the street, in open lots, in public buildings, and other places. A number of teen-age boys received their fatal injuries while hunting or engaged in target practice.

Statistics such as these present an argument for playgrounds.

Nature Display Arouses Interest—The effort to interest children at Palmer Park, Chicago, in nature study activities was a "flop" until a nature display case containing nature exhibit material was set up in the lobby outside the games room. The display was changed every ten days to make sure that all the material exhibited was seasonable. It gradually began to attract attention, and questions were asked about it. Before long interest grew to the point where a few children requested a trip. Gradually others joined, and soon a sizable Junior Naturalists' Club was formed.

Reeve B. Harris

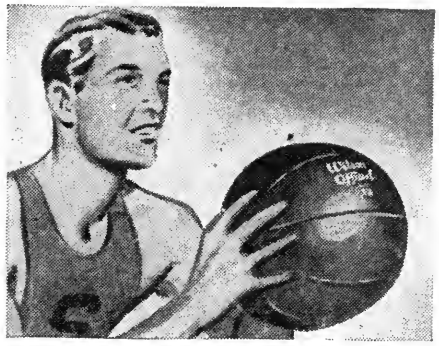
"REEVE B. HARRIS, Supervisor of Recreation in Passaic for 22 years, died January 2nd." He was one of the Old Guard in New Jersey, a gentle, but salty and humorous tonic to his town and to all who knew him.

He never achieved his ideal in recreation. He never would have, as he was never satisfied. We do not know whether he had ideas on immortality. He achieved it, however, in a degree many could envy, through the selfless devotion of himself to the full life of his community. "His soul goes marching on." Passaic is a better place to live in because of Reeve Harris. A richness has been added to the lives of those he touched, which like a pebble dropped in a pond will be felt in ever enlargening circles.

Strictly Utilitarian—Was there ever a teen-age youngster who didn't like to carve "hearts and flowers" on telephone poles or wooden fences or porch railings? It's practically reflex action. La Grange, Illinois youth center, "The Corral Club," has taken this fact of teen-age life into consideration. The club's big dance floor is surrounded by a railing of telephone poles which may be whittled or carved or hacked at will and nobody minds. The Corral Club began life as a garage. It has now a membership of 1,700 who pay annual dues of $3.00. The young people have their own board of governors who "run things" under the weather eye of the Recreation Department.

San Francisco Conducts Busy Program—This past summer the Recreation Commission of San Francisco, California, opened every schoolyard in the city. Every gymnasium was open during the evening as well as the regular playgrounds. Many teen-age centers were also opened with several more on the schedule as soon as buildings can be obtained. The Commission is supervising the recreation in all of the housing projects, both those for low income families and the defense workers' units. A several million dollar construction program for postwar work has been submitted to the Mayor by the Commission.

A Picnic Area in Los Angeles—To stimulate interest in the old-time family picnic, the Los Angeles Department of Playground and Recreation last summer developed a grass picnic area



LOOK AHEAD WITH SPORTS

It isn't only in training men for fighting that sports have proved a priceless contribution to our war effort. They are also very important to those who have been in the front lines—as a means of relaxing nerves—bringing fun and relaxation behind the lines. And sports will play their most important role after the war is over for these men—when they need to be "tapered off" from war to peace—need exercise to ease war's strains and to restore them to peacetime normal again. For all these war uses sports equipment is today largely regarded as *war* equipment and rightly so. Most of Wilson equipment is going to our armed forces today—so take care of what you have. Wilson Sporting Goods Co., Chicago, New York, and other leading cities.

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MEMBER: The athletic institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of national physical fitness.

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IT'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT

at Cabrillo Beach. The area is equipped with picnic tables, horseshoe courts, and a softball diamond. Special equipment is obtainable for staging three-legged races, sack races, and tug-of-war. The picnic area is also available on permit for church, civic, and other groups. Cabrillo Beach, with its many facilities and the Marine Museum with its thousands of exhibits, offer the family not only entertainment but scientific knowledge.

For the Older Folks of Your Community—The following suggestions come from a bulletin issued by the Division of Recreation, Chicago Park District:

Early Community Room. During certain seasons a club room can be spared for a week or less. Publicize the items of furniture and gadgets necessary to portray a typical living room of the early days of the community. A small committee of your oldest and most capable residents will decide on the most appropriate clock, for example, curtains or tables offered, decide on arrangements, and act as hosts on a certain day, wearing apparel to fit the occasion. Women's clubs or groups are glad to serve on other days. Invite schools by classes to hear the history of their community and have items in the room explained.

Postwar Planning for Recreation

(Continued from page 595)

must be on a larger scale in the future than it has been in the past fifty years. Boys and girls, men and women must be exposed to the out-of-doors. They must know the trees, the streams, the valleys, and the hills. This can be accomplished in this day and age, in metropolitan areas, only through the medium of parks, parkways, and reservations.

It is being said that without a full knowledge of nature by the people there can be no real culture in America. We, as park and recreation planners, have a great responsibility in the development of this culture. The war has shown us many things, one of which is that recreation is not a side show. It is part of the main event. The importance attached to this phase of military life by the Army and the Navy has proven this to be the case. We must proceed upon this as a fundamental and valid assumption in thinking and planning for recreation after the war.

The Work of Our Head and Our Hand

(Continued from page 582)

to enrich the curriculum of the schools by relating arts and crafts to social studies, music, nature study, science, and other studies. The emphasis should be upon originating, investigating, experimenting.

A growing collection of books and reference material is being circulated among teachers and craftsmen in the state. In distributing this illustrative material, emphasis is given to color, design, and styling; to developing discrimination and good taste; and to building up a tolerance for and recognition of what is good in both modern and traditional design.

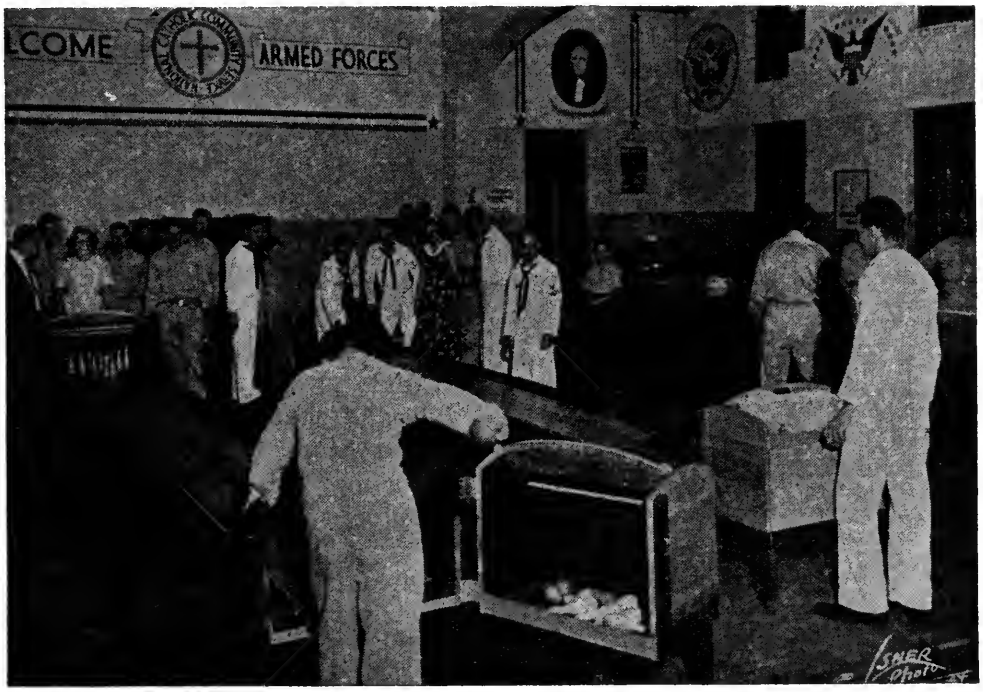
The Arts and Crafts Service in the State Department of Education is concerned with a well-rounded educational program for children, young people, and adults. This program includes improving design and standards of workmanship, encouraging greater participation in the creative arts by children and young people in the schools, and stimulating the interest of the public in arts and crafts through bulletins, talks, broadcasts, conferences, exhibitions. The Service aims, too, to help men and women help themselves; to assist men and women to gain a small supplementary cash income from part-time craft work; to guide men and women so that they may achieve much of the genuine enjoyment and pride in accomplishment that comes from meeting a high standard in creative handwork.

A Serviceman Considers Memorials

(Continued from page 580)

pointed to sponsor a war memorial. The most popular suggestion is for a public auditorium with post rooms for veterans and space for public offices.

The American Commission for Living War Memorials has prepared a brochure to meet the growing number of requests for information about suitable monuments to the men and women who have fought the battles of World War II. *Memorials That Live* is a picture-story of the things communities can create to the memory of their sons and daughters in the armed services. The brochure has approximately 200 suggestions for memorials that "will contribute to the character, to the health, and to the welfare of our American citizenship." Inquiries to the Commission should be addressed to George M. Trautman, Chairman, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus 15, Ohio.



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This unique, PORTABLE Two-Way Bowling Alley (requiring NO INSTALLATION COST!) is proving to be one of the leading game-units, now included in RECREATION PROGRAMS all over the country. Because of its E-Z set-up features, solid construction and convenient size, the alley is perfectly adapted for immediate use as well as for postwar building plans.

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Recreation: New Obligations—New Approaches

(Continued from page 589)

their babies and putting them down somewhere else; its war workers following the war job, leaving friends behind, breaking ties with church and club, moving out of familiar places.

After the war Americans will have to be introduced to themselves again and introduced to their neighbors. They will have to be given the chance to move out of the hectic war routines and find the joy of doing the uncompelled things they have wanted to do but had no time to do There will be a great emptiness and a great hunger in America; and the recreation leaders will have to be on hand to do their job of filling the emptiness and satisfying the hunger. Communities, through their social agencies, will likewise have to be on hand to do their job. For every uprooted person will be potentially a distorted person. And every potentially distorted person will have to be given the chance to build once again the full circle of his life activities.

All over America the belief must be strong that the recreative way is the saving way. But also, all over America, the belief must be strong that the coming together of our people, both in seriousness and play, is basic to a sound democracy. We must recapture something of the folk spirit of our earlier days. Not the isolated individual but the participating individual must be the pattern of our free society.

If we believe these things strongly enough, we may move forward to a new age of cultural freedom in America.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND RECREATION
1201 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Hi, Neighbor!

BELIEVING that a realistic approach to the problems of permanent world peace depends upon the extent to which individual citizens of each country have the opportunity to play an active role in the building of a "world neighbor" point of view, Camp Fire Girls are sponsoring a nation-wide project for 1945 in which girls of seven to seventeen can participate.

"Hi, Neighbor!" is the theme. In carrying out the project on the local level, the girls will be encouraged to explore their neighborhoods, survey their communities, and formulate plans for relating their community needs and interests to the larger horizons of national and world communities. Included among the suggestions for activities in the neighborhood are neighborhood service and neighborhood fun.

The program, designed to create better understanding among the girls of America and neighbors of other racial or national origins living in their communities, should have a strong appeal at just this time.

A Time to Remember

This year the National Conference of Christians and Jews has designated February 18 to 25 as a time of rededication to those principles of tolerance expressed in the slogan, "To bigotry no sanction." Schools, churches, community organizations, men of good will, plan to take part in this year's observance of Brotherhood Week.

Recreation and Rural Communities

RECREATION should be localized and creative, and it should be the responsibility of the cooperative efforts of the various community groups as well as the home.

Every community should provide recreation facilities and activities for all of its population on a non-commercial basis.

There is frequently a tendency on the part of youth to resent the regulation of the recreation facilities by older persons, and of older persons to fail to appreciate the needs of the youngsters. Authorities in charge of public and semi-private facilities such as town halls, schools, and buildings belonging to civic or fraternal organizations, are too frequently reluctant to grant permission to use them to young people's groups, and, finding it difficult to guarantee relatively high rental, the young people have patronized commercial dance halls in place of community dances and the movies of nearby towns and cities have taken the place of hometown theatricals.

In this commercial age, private interests will seize every opportunity to capitalize upon the universal need for recreation. Urban influences will promote an ever-increasing demand for certain forms of recreation that have been controlled largely by commercial interests. This situation emphasizes the need for community action in furnishing recreation facilities for young people.

In planning a long-time program, it is necessary to know what commercialized facilities now exist, what interests they serve, and how effectively, and the extent to which rural people are willing to allow the introduction of new commercial recreation activities.

Confusion in dealing with the many problems facing every community as a consequence of the war will result in poor planning and ineffective results. It is essential that every community should avoid such a situation, and that to that end steps should be taken to meet the problems frankly and with the determination to advance the welfare of the community. The committee has considered some of the fundamental needs of the social community and the means by which they may be advanced. The report, therefore, is an attempt to help to gain these ends by offering suggestions and by enumerating standards and objectives.

In this way, communities may review their resources in people, organization, spirit, and material wealth. The problems are immediate and future. The social structure is already in existence. Knowledge, understanding and community purpose in action can deal successfully with these problems that are so immediate and so important to the maintenance of the American social community and to the attainment of a higher, a more helpful, and an improved welfare. — From *Farm and Rural Life After the War,* Proceedings of the Twenty-fourth American Country Life Conference, 1944.

"Americana"

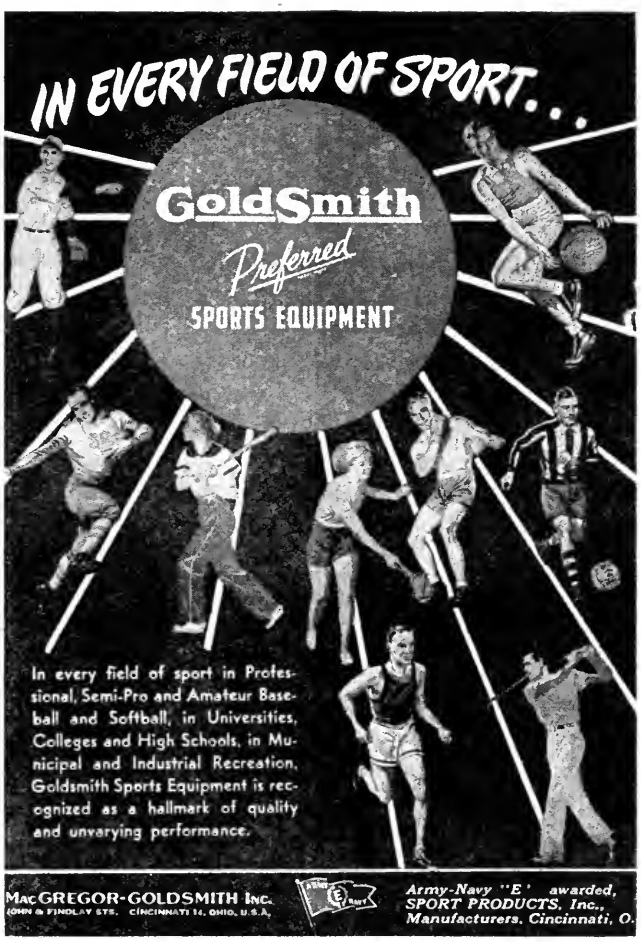
"IT WOULD BE SWELL to have a musical review," remarked a high school boy at one of our Friday night dances in Brattleboro.

We agreed with him and suggested that he and his friends get the "crowd" interested. The idea evidently took, and very soon teen-age boys and girls started coming to the office asking to be in the show. It was not long before a general plan for the production was drawn up by the adult leaders.

We were very fortunate in obtaining the volunteer services of a competent dancing teacher, together with the assistance of local people interested in make-up, costuming, and music. The material for the costumes was purchased in bolts, cut out at the community center, and then made up by the individual who was to wear the particular costume. Some of them were well made; some were merely basted, but all looked well on the stage.

Most of the productions given in Brattleboro in the past had been of the minstrel show type. Practically none of the teen-agers had any idea of pantomime or good dramatic skits, and it was something of a struggle to steer them away from slapstick comedies and make them realize that stage presence, costuming, and voice were important to the success of a production.

Since there had never been any dramatics at the community center, there was nothing in the way of equipment, lights or stage settings, and everything had to be purchased and made. Footlights were constructed by a group of teen-age boys under the supervision of a licensed electrician, and other lighting equipment was borrowed from department stores and electricians. A backdrop and side curtains were painted in pastel colors in diagonal stripes.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The dancers in the chorus were rank amateurs, many of them being unfamiliar with any form of dance except the straight waltz, but after several weeks of hard work they presented a near-professional appearance. The improvement made by the young people participating was amazing. Many of them had never been in a production before, but with the encouragement and stimulation of a capable director they soon blossomed forth.

Four dress rehearsals were conducted. The young people had several objectives in staging the production at this time: first, the fun of being in the show; second, the necessity for raising money for equipment; and third, the securing of good publicity before town meeting, since the Recreation Department was asking for a substantial increase in its appropriation. The cast as well as the audience was very much surprised at the quality of their production and immediately made plans for a road show which would go to their communities.

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Now Off the Press!

YOU ARE GOING TO LIKE the new booklet we have to tell you about this month. It's going to be particularly attractive, we think, both from the standpoint of content and appearance.

The title—and it's an intriguing one—*Outdoors Indoors,* will tell you what it's all about. You'll be surprised to learn how much of nature can be enjoyed through a window. You will find out how to make friends with birds. The weather and the sky, you will discover, offer a fascinating study. Indoor forests, ponds, and gardens are fun to make. And, of course, the out-of-doors can always come to you through pictures and books.

These are only a few of the suggestions offered the shut-in and convalescent in this illustrated booklet which is now off the press and ready for your use. Price 75 cents.

Everyone who is promoting community recreation knows how important leadership is. And so it's good news that the report on *Standards of Training, Experience and Compensation in Community Recreation Work* has been revised to help local recreation executives and other municipal authorities meet their postwar leadership needs. The pamphlet, now known as *Recreation Leadership Standards,* is off the press and ready for you. Price 35 cents.

Other publications are in the making and will be published before long, we hope. You will have definite word about them in later issues.

Town meeting came four days after the production of "Americana." The increased appropriation hoped for was received, and as a result the young people felt that they had had a part in helping to secure the additional money. — From *Frances V. LeVecque,* Superintendent of Recreation, Brattleboro, Vermont.

$100,000 Released for Public Playground

WHEN JAMES C. GREENMAN, a young Utica, N. Y., business man died fifty years ago at the age of thirty-four, he left the residue of his estate, now valued at approximately $100,000 for the establishment and development of a playground system to be made available to the city upon the death of his wife, which occurred yesterday in New Hartford at the age of eighty-seven.

At the time the will was made (1892) the City of Utica did not have a single playground, but it has since acquired many hundreds of acres of land for park purposes under bequests from the Proctor family and others.

Mr. Greenman's will made specific bequests of approximately $85,000 to relatives and friends, leaving the bulk in trust, the income of which went to his widow during her lifetime.

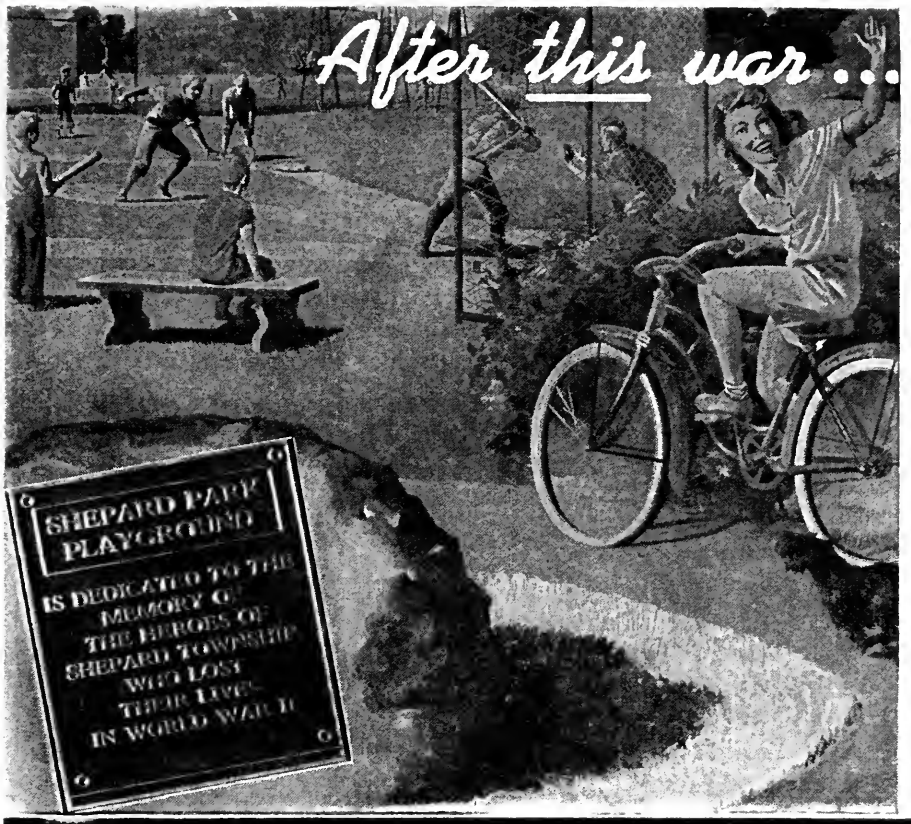
The will provided that upon her death the trustees or their successor (Charles A. Miller, attorney, is the sole surviving trustee) should turn all the real and personal property into cash, purchase plots of ground within or near the city and deed these over to the city with the proviso that they be used and maintained forever as playgrounds or places of recreation for the young.

The city through the Common Council in 1895, when John Gibson was Mayor, accepted the gift of the estate for playground purposes, which had to be acted upon within a year of the probate of the estate.

The will further provides that the balance of cash left over after the purchase of the playgrounds shall be turned over to the city as follows: Such amounts as are needed up to one-half of the total to be used for fitting up the playgrounds so purchased, such as grading and draining them. The rest of the money is to be held in trust, invested in accordance with the law governing trust funds and the income used to care for and maintain the grounds for the purposes stipulated — Utica *Observer-Dispatch,* October 15, 1944.

Correction

On page 531 of the January issue of RECREATION there appeared an article by Mr. and Mrs. Adler of Juvenile House, New York City. Through an error Mr. Adler's first name was given as Jacob. It should have been Joseph.


After this war...
SHEPARD PARK PLAYGROUND
IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE HEROES OF SHEPARD TOWNSHIP WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN WORLD WAR II

LIVING MEMORIALS

Let us remember the sacrifices of those who now fight for us by providing for the health and happiness of whole communities. Plan, as memorials, the needed playgrounds, baseball diamonds, golf courses, etc., that everyone can use and enjoy.

This message is published by the Hillerich & Bradsby Co. in furtherance of the plans of The American Commission for Living War Memorials. Inquiries should be sent to George M. Trautman, 30 East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio.

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BATS

Getting Publicity

(Continued from page 592)

or anyone on his staff will reveal his "deadline"—when he must have the news in order to include it in that week's issue. Observe this "deadline" faithfully lest your contributions miss the desired issue and thereby become stale or unusable for the next issue.

Recreation departments are counseled not to overlook another publicity bet — radio stations. You will find them cooperative if the recreation event is a big city-wide one. Churches, too, will extend a helping hand to recreation leaders by making announcements from pulpits or at Sunday School classes.

No medium of publicity should be overlooked; all should be fully used in order to help make recreation programs successful.

Any recreation department can sell its activities 100 per cent to the public by being news-conscious, by earning the cooperation of newspapers, by publicizing events as extensively as possible. When the end of the year comes, it will be able to look backward and feel proud of the increased effectiveness of its programs.

Their Entrances and Their Exits

(Continued from page 568)

at a chair or touches it before sitting down. A blind person has to be taught to do this. There has to be more time put on setting the action of the play for the blind, and the director must be more than usually sure not only of her blocking of the play, but of her ability to express this sureness in clear, concise words. The complete stage picture must be given to each actor because, of course, he cannot see for himself the whole pattern that is developing about the entire cast.

Beyond these special concerns, the play will go forward as any play goes. These blind players are, perhaps, a little more sensitive, a little better able to sustain their concentration, a little more understanding of dramatic situations and characterization—qualities which any director will probably agree more than make up for the physical limitation of sightlessness.

The pride and the glory of these young women is that they ask no quarter, seek no special considerations or critical restraint because of their blindness. They ask their audiences to believe that they are actors first, blind second.

Something New in Education!

(Continued from page 579)

students were a little skeptical at first, but they have discovered that boys ands girls can work together successfully in the same class while learning the fundamentals of a modern program of physical education.

A third experiment which deals with evening recreation for high school students is under way at the present moment. One night each week the period between 7:00 and 9:30 P. M. had been set aside for boys' recreation in the high school gymnasium; one night for girls, and a third night for mixed groups of boys and girls. The boys had responded in large numbers; the girls hadn't taken advantage of their opportunity, but when it came to handling boys and girls together we had been swamped! The crowd was so large for the mixed group that no one could really have a good time, so it was decided to have two nights a week of co-recreation, letting the boys have the third night.

In order to limit the size of the crowds and conduct a good program of all-around recreation for the mixed groups we are admitting pupils only upon presentation of a ticket of admission. These tickets are distributed free through the home rooms, beginning with the senior class, and working on down to the seventh grade. When one hundred tickets have been given out to those who agree to attend no more are issued. When it comes time to give out tickets for the second night of the week we begin the distribution where we left off in the home rooms and continue through all home rooms on a rotating basis so that all pupils have an equal opportunity.

Recreation activities are also provided for elementary school pupils four afternoons each week immediately after the close of school. Two teachers are employed to conduct this work which consists of games, races, rhythms, and athletics.

How Financed

Funds to carry on the educational program in Planeview come from four sources. The Federal Public Housing Authority pays to the Planeview Board of Education a sum of money each year based on the assessed valuation of the property in Planeview. This money is paid the public schools from rent received from the citizens in lieu of taxes. Funds are also available from the State Educational Fund, and we receive our proportionate share from this fund just as do all schools in the state of Kansas. The fourth source of financial aid comes from funds furnished by the Lanham Act. These are Federal funds and consequently it is necessary for our schools to adhere strictly to the rules and regulations which have been set up for public schools to receive help from this source.

Our Board of Education and Superintendent, Frank K. Reid, have decided that teachers who are well paid and who are happy in their work can operate an effective educational system which will give the maximum amount of benefit to the boys and girls who are enrolled. When well trained people decide to work together, under competent leadership, for a common cause, good results are bound to be obtained. The Plainview Public Schools, under the leadership of an alert superintendent who is backed by a very progressive, broad-minded board of education, have been able to conduct successfully this new experiment in education.

500? No—Almost 5,000!

IN THE ARTICLE regarding the Chicago Recreation Conference which appeared in the January issue of RECREATION, the statement was made that the Conference was attended by 500 people.

We have heard from Dr. Philip L. Seman, chairman of the Chicago Recreation Commission, who challenges the statement very vigorously. "As a matter of fact," writes Dr. Seman, "there were well over 3,000 who actually registered at the Conference; 1,045 were at the luncheon; and there were 300 or more who came after the luncheon to hear Dr. Harry Overstreet. It is difficult to estimate the number of people who visited the exhibits and who attended the Conference without registering. The estimate is approximately 1,500, which would make the total in attendance about 4,500."

Dr. Seman further says: "There were 27 meetings in all; 14 of them were discussion meetings varying in attendance from 45, the smallest, to over 500, the largest. This is outside of the luncheon meeting and the evening meeting at which Howard McClusky spoke. There were 7 workshop and 5 professional meetings, making a total of 27, including the luncheon meeting and the evening meeting."

In view of these facts, we feel Dr. Seman is quite justified in his question, "Where did you get your figure?"

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Youth Leaders Digest, November 1944
Some Post-War Youth Problems, George Hjelte
Prevention of Delinquency in an Over-Privileged Community, Frederic M. Thrasher

Hygeia, December 1944
Music in the Treatment of the Sick, Esther Goetz Gilliland

Journal of Health and Physical Education, December 1944
Dance and the School in Wartime, Martha B. Deane
Outdoor Classes in Northern Winters, Mabel J. Shirley
The Program and Sport Choices of Navy V-12 Trainees, Frederick W. Cozens
Postwar Planning at the College Level, Mildred Anderson
The "Tote" Basket System, Clyde E. Mullis

Parks and Recreation, November-December 1944
Maintenance Mart
Trends in Recreation Resulting from the War, Lieut. Comdr. F. S. Mathewson, USNR
Living Memorials, Gordon B. Wallace
Indiana's Long Range Conservation Plans, Hugh A. Barnhart
In-Service Training and Wartime Personnel, Roberts Mann

National Parent-Teacher, December 1944
What Will Santa Claus Bring? Shirley Newsom

Safety Education, December 1944
Sports for the Student, P. F. Neverman

Education Digest, December 1944
The School as the Community's Meeting Place, Orin B. Graff

Parents' Magazine, January 1945
Fun in and Out of Bed, Mabel Hamilton Mueller

Teachers' Digest, December 1944
Try Sealing Wax Craft

Manufacturers' News, December 1944
Recreation Program for Small Manufacturers, Samuel C. Klein
Employee Publications Job in Recreation Promotion in Industry, Irving B. Lacy

PAMPHLETS

Suggestions for Post-War Planning
Boys' Clubs of America, New York City

Tales Told in the Long House
The Carborundum Company, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Gay Decorations for Parties, Dances, Banquets
Dennison Manufacturing Company, New York City. Price 10 cents

Your Stake in Community Planning
National Committee on Housing, Inc., New York City

The Lighthouse Players (dramatics for the blind)
Ruth Askenas, New York Association for the Blind, 11 East 59th Street, New York 22

Boys' Clubs and Girls' Clubs
Parks and Recreation Department, Salt Lake City, Utah

Planning Your Meetings
National Publicity Council, 130 East 22nd Street, New York 10. Price 50 cents

Recreation (bulletin)
Recreation Commission, Augusta, Georgia

BASEBALL BASES
Both National regulation "hardball" and "softball" bases are used as the standard in many leagues and recreational departments. Guaranteed to give long playing satisfaction. National patented reversible softball bases have proven extremely popular. Write for complete details.
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The Pleasures of Reading

(Continued from page 599)

observations of birds, fish, woods and fields, the sea, and the stars.

But the pleasure of reading is the main recreational resource which Lord Grey testifies to after his long and busy life, as the surest and most available resource open to every busy man. An experienced teacher and critic of literature who enjoyed this book with me, tells me that Lord Grey has produced some of the best literary criticism he has ever read. What I enjoy in his talk about reading, I would not call literary criticism so much as a testimony to the healing, strengthening, and restoring power of great sentiments and thoughts which feed the soul and lift one above the humdrum and agitation of daily affairs. Poetry is Lord Grey's first exhibit in the field of reading. He is well versed in all English poetry. Shakespeare he puts in a class by himself and says that otherwise, he is almost too great to comment on. But among poets who are not only great in their art, but great in conveying a sense of significance and beauty in living, he places first the poet Wordsworth, and he regards as Wordsworth's greatest poem, *The Prelude.* This poem is now coming into its own, whereas during Wordsworth's lifetime, it was thought to be the dullest of all his poems. Lord Grey advises us not to be afraid of long books, but regardless of length, to read the great, wise, quiet books which have lasted through the generations because they speak with peculiar power to the souls and minds of men; and I think that he himself, in *The Fallodon Papers,* has produced one of these great and wise and quiet books. His repose of spirit in enjoying nature is as great as that of Gilbert White and of Izaak Walton. He brings us, as does Wordsworth,

"Authentic tidings of invisible things,
Of ebb and flow and ever during power
And central peace subsisting at the heart
Of endless agitation."

Starting Your Butterfly Collection
Evelyn Gilstrap, Sanitarium, California. Price 10 cents

Youth Needs in Winnipeg — An Investigation Into the Causes of Juvenile Delinquency
Council of Social Agencies of Greater Winnipeg, Canada

Ohio School Standards in Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Safety
Department of Education, State of Ohio, Columbus

The 1944 Forest Fire Season

AN ARTICLE under this title in the *National Parks Magazine* for October-December 1944 states that incomplete reports of forest fires which have burned in National Park Service areas indicate that through September 10th the 1944 record has been a relatively good one. Fewer fires have been reported than during any of the previous ten years at this date. Lightning fires have been about normal in number, but man-caused fires have shown a very material and encouraging decrease despite an increase in use of the areas over last year.

The National Park Service made early and intensive preparation for the fire season in all areas. Critical shortages of experienced regular fire protection personnel existed, and recruitment of seasonal personnel was difficult. Dependence had to be placed on boys and women to fill positions formerly held by experienced men. The results have in general been more satisfactory than was expected. Regional fire protection conferences were held attended by key protection personnel from all the parks. Emphasis was placed on discussions and practice in fire prevention, organization to obtain the most effective action from limited personnel, latest methods for use of labor- saving devices, recruitment, and cooperation with other agencies and areas in fire suppression.

"Just Some Ideas I Had"

(Continued from page 584)

are not.) I keep a daily shop diary, not in full details—just a general outline. I can tell you what I did twenty years ago today (unless it falls on a Sunday). All my sets of records, the way they are written up, are of my own making, and I have been told by those who should know that they are of the best. I myself can't answer that because what I know about records is what I have developed here, never seeing any other set, or copying from anyone else.

Major John L. Griffith

AMATEUR ATHLETICS and sports lost one of its outstanding national leaders in the death on December 7, 1944 of Major John L. Griffith. Major Griffith was probably best known as the Commissioner of the "Big Ten" Conference of midwestern colleges and universities. He also served for a number of years as executive vice-president of the National Amateur Athletic Federation; as a member of the Executive Committee of the American Olympic Association (now the United States of America Sports Federation); and as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Amateur Softball Association of America.

Major Griffith was greatly interested in the youth of America and for a number of years served as chairman of the National Boys and Girls Week Committee.

I've Seen Their Faces

(Continued from page 590)

I could see, too, the bright, intent face of the small grinning boy in the ring (the black-eyed one) and the equally alert grinning face of the instructor, down on his knees to reduce his height to that of the boy; their wary, watchful expressions, the sudden extending of their fists toward each other. Their concentration made the room the core of the universe to those two, and to the small watchers. I carried a picture of it away—the light above their heads, shadows in the corners of the room, the dancing ropes, the intent man and boy in the ring.
—Reprinted from *The Junior League Magazine*, June 1944.

The Minneapolis Parade Center

(Continued from page 598)

The Parade Center as a Postwar Project

The ultimate criterion of any public project is whether it is in the public interest and whether it is practical. It has been demonstrated that it is in the public interest. Almost every large city in the United States possesses the facilities that would be included in the Center, but generally, they are scattered all over the city. The Parade Center would be unique in that it would contain all the facilities for both outdoor and indoor sports in the same area, centrally located, and easily accessible from all sections of the city. Furthermore, ample parking space is available for the parking of 1,750 cars within one and one-half blocks of the Center.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Normal Lives for the Disabled

By Edna Yost in collaboration with Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth. The Macmillan Company, New York. $2.50.

THIS WARM and understanding treatment of a subject that will be increasingly important to Americans in the coming months might well be required reading for every one in the nation. Not only does it bring hope and a challenge to the physically handicapped, but it is a warning and a guide for those people—whole of body and nerves—who must help the disabled to find normalcy. The book is a mine of information about resources for the disabled as well as a tonic for their discouragement in facing a new and difficult problem.

Sing for America

By Opal Wheeler. Illustrated by Gustaf Tenggren. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. $3.00.

OPAL WHEELER, with her stories of songs, and Gustaf Tenggren, with his heart-warming illustrations, have created a companion piece to *Sing for Christmas*. The new songbook is *Sing for America*. It is a collection of patriotic songs, spirituals, pioneering songs, songs of the West, Stephen Foster favorites to delight the eye and challenge singers, young and old, to find the nearest piano and lift up their hearts and their voices.

Toys You Can Make of Wood

By Lawry Turpin. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. $2.50.

A FEW SIMPLE HAND TOOLS will make the fascinating toys shown in this book. There are directions for such unusual items as a ferris wheel and a harbor complete with boats, buildings, and lighthouse as well as the more usual toys-of-the-day. Directions, along with suggested dimensions, rules for enlarging sketches, and pictures of the finished articles, insure the usefulness of this guide to more fun for children and more satisfaction for their parents.

Folk Dancing in High School and College

By Grace I. Fox. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $2.00.

GRACE FOX has collected these folk dances with teacher training institutions primarily in mind. Her collection is designed to supply recreation workers and prospective teachers with colorful materials from many countries—materials to fit the needs of adults and of teen-age boys and girls. Accordingly, in addition to well-known and well-loved American figures, dances have been included from Russia, England, Sweden, Ireland, Bohemia, Lithuania, Moravia, Finland, Mexico, Latvia, Italy, and Switzerland. In addition to piano arrangements of the dances and dance steps, a list of suggested recordings is included.

Harriman Park Trail Guide

By William Hoeferlin. Walking News, 556 Fairview Avenue, Brooklyn 27, New York. $.75.

A DESCRIPTIVE GUIDE to trails and their appurtenances in pocket size should be a welcome asset to any New York hiker. The *Harriman Park Trail Guide* lists trails in the Northern Ramapos and the Southern Hudson Highlands, including Harriman Park and its surroundings; gives a mileage log of marked trails; and suggests some of the scenic attractions in the area. Photographs and line drawings make the booklet attractive as well as useful.

Paddle Tennis

By Fessenden S. Blanchard. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. $1.25.

THIS IS THE FIRST complete book devoted to the fascinating new game from which it draws its title. Both court and platform varieties of the game are described and explained in detail. Chapters are devoted to the equipment, rules, and strategy of each form of the activity as well as to other pertinent considerations about each.

U. S. Sports Rule Book

Crewdson and Custer, Publishers, Chicago. $.50.

ONE SET OF COVERS contains condensed rules for twenty-two sports, and diagrams for setting up courts for all of them. Both individual sports, such as archery and golf, and team sports like football, hockey, softball, are included in the activities considered.

Teacher's Kit of Aviation Materials for Intermediate Grades

United Air Lines, Room 305, Palmer House, Chicago 3, Illinois.

THIS KIT CONTAINS pictures and descriptive data on United Air Line ships, information about vocational opportunities in the "Age of Flight," pictures illustrating the various stages in the development of the modern airplane, an air-line map of the United States, and a list of inexpensive materials of aid to the teacher of aviation or related subjects. An "Aviation Manual," edited by William A. Wheatley and Laura Oftedal, gives suggestions for the use of the materials in the kit and further information about the history of aviation in the United States.

How to Raise Your Puppy

By Margaret F. Atkinson. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. $1.75.

POLICE OFFICER OLIPHANT of the police dog force gives good advice to boys and girls with puppies to bring up in the right way. From rule number one, "How to Pick Up Your Puppy," through feeding, bedding, house-

breaking, brushing and combing, bathing, to rule number seven, "How to Get Along with Your Puppy," Officer Oliphant offers good, sound advice made crystal clear for the youngster by delightful illustrations. This book is not only educational—it is delightful as well.

Good Pictures.

By J. Lavelle McCoy, Jr. Argus International Industries, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan. $.25.

The author of this booklet has designed his material to help the amateur cameraman get the most from film that, in these days, is so scarce as to be precious. Photography is considered from both the technical and artistic points of view. There are sections on developing and enlarging and on the making of slides for projection as well as suggestions on how to get the most from camera and film.

The American Rifle for Hunting and Target Shooting.

By C. E. Hagel. The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.95.

The purpose of this book, as stated in the preface, is to guide men (and women) in the selection of the best rifle and the best ammunition to be used in hunting big game. To this end different kinds of guns and ammunition are discussed in relation to their merits in the field. There are, in addition, chapters on target shooting and on the best equipment for it, on shooting at small game, and on rifle sights.

Famous American Composers.

By Grace Overmyer. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. $2.00.

Interesting events in the lives of composers from Francis Hopkinson, born in 1737, to George Gershwin, who died two hundred years later, are related in this book. Each of the composers appearing in it made his own contribution to the cultural life of America. What this contribution has been is suggested by the author.

Building a Popular Movement.

By Harold P. Levy. Russell Sage Foundation, New York. $1.25.

Mr. Levy has made studies of the public relations policies of a number of agencies. This, the second of the published case studies, discusses the public relations of the Boy Scouts of America. It stresses the interrelation of three main areas of agency operation—administration, program, and public relations. "Problems of public relations," Mr. Levy points out, "exist inevitably in an organization serving the people, whether the Boy Scouts of America or another. They must be met with planning, performance, and manpower assigned to the job."

Practical Occupational Therapy for the Mentally and Nervously Ill.

By Louis J. Haas. The Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. $6.00.

Here is a careful and detailed study of occupational therapy as an aid to curing mental and nervous disorders. Two-thirds of the book are devoted to an analysis of case records and to the organization and management of the therapy division in a hospital. The final third is given over to a detailed discussion of craft techniques.

Looking to the Future.

Community Chests and Councils, Inc., 155 East 44th Street, New York 17. $.50.

The Association of Junior Leagues of America, Inc., and the Community Chests and Councils, Inc., recently cooperated in a survey to ascertain the possible future for centralized volunteer service. A hundred and three communities in the United States and Canada were questioned in detail on present future plans for such service. Their answers are here summarized and published together with suggestions to local communities on the future planning of centralized volunteer bureaus. Because it presents the thinking of groups who have had pre-war experience in this kind of cooperative planning for the use of volunteers, *Looking to the Future* should be valuable to other communities as they think in terms of postwar needs.

Lock, Stock and Barrel.

By Douglass and Elizabeth Rigby. J. B. Lippincott Company, New York. $5.00.

This story of collecting is not a lesson in how to collect in any one field. It is rather a history of collecting techniques and practices in all fields. Call it, perhaps, a portrait of *The Collector* or a history of collectors and collections for it is a book full of fascinating stories about many people who collected many things in many ages. It is also a repository of information on such things as the collector's relationship to museums, the part played in collection by wars, social change, science, the danger from "wolves" in the "forest of Collectiana." Here, indeed is a fascinating and valuable addition to anybody's library—an aid to collectors, an invitation to non-collectors.

Homemakers Scrap Book.

Greenberg: Publisher, New York. $2.50.

Here is a scrapbook to end all scrapbooks for the housekeeper. There are the usual sections for recipes plus sections for cleaning, home decoration, and miscellaneous data. There are printed suggestions at the beginning of each section, plenty of loose leaves for your own comments, basic information about the household, and (perhaps, best of all) an envelope for clippings bound in with each division of the book.

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Nature Recreation

NATURE RECREATION will be a major interest in the world of returned soldiers. Men spiritually wounded by the war will seek the healing to be found in the woods, by the streams, under open skies. Trees and flowers may "talk back," but in a special, soothing way. Readjustment in the home to the noise of little children, to members of the family who after all know little of the language of war, will be easier for many if they can from time to time slip away by themselves and make their souls whole again in the outdoor world of nature, perhaps with the family dog as a companion.

At other times families will go out to picnic together, taking life up as if there had been no period in between—forgetting for the time all that so much needs to be forgotten.

Some will be fishing again, or hunting (or pretending to, while they just tramp). Others will hunt with the camera. Many soldiers are skilled now not only in the use of the camera but also in taking motion pictures. They will be pleased if the recreation center arranges for exhibitions of their photographs and their motion pictures.

Science clubs will be desired that men may experiment and compare notes afterwards.

The more quickly to reach the ocean, the lake, the mountains, the forest, that there may be more time for enjoying wilderness spots and less time taken going and coming, the automobiles will play an important part—some will use helicopter hydroplanes to soar to remote mountain lakes for fishing and for rest.

If only more and better bicycle paths are provided, youth of a certain age will pedal along together to their favorite retreats. Always there will be those who just like to tramp, who can see more and enjoy more on foot. For those who cannot go far there is great advantage in the path along the side, even of the well-traveled automobile highway, for such paths can be used for bits of time at night. Only these paths should not be concrete; they must be kept up and fitted into the landscape to give the most of beauty.

A little of leadership as to times and places for those who want to share tramping, bicycling, bird tours, "geology" trips, observation of special nature phenomena, can give pleasure out of all proportion to the cost. Of course eating together out of doors always helps. Volunteers can play an important part in nature guiding.

The recreation center, the playground, gives a point of departure. The outlying city park, the near-by county or state park, sometimes even a national park can be used. The parks and the forests will all help the steady growth of camping under local government auspices.

More and longer vacations with pay for office and industrial workers mean more calls on municipal recreation workers to help plan vacation trips that bring close touch with nature.

The off-the-playground, off-the-recreation center nature guidance program may well be an increasing responsibility of the municipal recreation center and its community leaders.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

March

Courtesy Stanley Home Products, Inc.

The Enchanted Oak

(For story see page 632)

Courtesy Oglebay Park, West Virginia

Nature Is Fun!

By ELIZABETH H. PRICE

Heigh-ho! Away we go
Riding on Adventure!

LET'S STOP TALKING about or even thinking in terms of "teaching" nature "study." Nature is so excitingly alive, our approach to it should be dynamic, not static. It should be a personal adventure in discovering a living world, for in that fashion is best kindled an awareness of the vast storehouse of priceless treasure that surrounds us and an intense eagerness to find out more about these treasures.

Well and good! But how to begin? First of all, be local, be seasonal, be quick to take a hint and follow it through. Discover the gold nuggets you've been stubbing your toe against without ever bothering to pick them up—the trees within a block of you; the birds that will flock to a feeding table and bath; the habits of the flowers in your garden; a weedy vacant lot on the corner.

Adventuring with Trees

Trees offer a fruitful field for adventuring. Notice the difference in types of bark: the lovely chalky paper of the birches; the thin, brittle flakes of the plane tree that can be picked off in such a surprising variety of shapes—a Scotty's face, a peak-capped witch, a hook-nosed profile. It's fun to see what you can find. Then there are hard, deeply fissured barks, or barks like that of the redwood with long, shreddy fibres. See what others you can find for yourself, and then have fun in taking turns being blindfolded and seeing how many can be recognized by touch alone.

That's a year-round project. In the fall go hunting to see how many trees have discarded their fruit and how many have "hang-overs," hanging on to the seed containers most or all of the winter. Only yesterday I had a thrill in noticing for the first time that the linden tree, whose leaves have long since fallen, is still holding on to the curious leaflike contraptions (bracts if you must be technical), to which the fruit is attached. And in the fall it is fun to walk along with eyes on the ground and try to tell from what you see there—leaves, seeds, or seed containers—what trees are about you. On a hillside, or after a strong wind, it is sometimes a trick to find the tree whence came your bit of evidence!

In the spring one of the most rewarding projects I know is to find a tree with as large buds as possible (one near home where it can be easily watched every day), tie a bright string near one particular bud, and then watch to see what emerges from the bud. My prize experience was a three-quarter inch bud on a big leaf maple in my own garden from which emerged a 30-inch twig bearing fourteen leaves averaging 8 inches in diameter. Can you better that?

A companion project in the spring is to watch the unfolding from the bud of as many different types of leaves as possible. You see, tree leaves are formed ahead of time, perfect in every detail, but in miniature and wrapped up in a bud. When the bud opens, one sees the exquisitely pleated and folded leaf, one leaflet laid neatly atop another, each cell ready and waiting at the touch of warmth and mois-

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It runs in the family! Mrs. Price is the mother of Betty Price Puckle who, when a member of the staff of the National Recreation Association, in 1939 compiled and edited *Adventuring in Nature,* now in its fourth printing.

For two years Mrs. Price served as Nature Adviser, on the West Coast, for Girl Scouts, Incorporated, and in this capacity did much to stimulate interest in nature. Until recently she has been Girl Scout executive in San Jose, California.

ture to expand and in an unbelievably short time produce a full-sized leaf.

Do give yourself the pleasure of watching this miracle. You can bring indoors a bare branch loaded with fat swelling buds (buckeye is ideal), and place it in a jar of water in a warm room. Or watch your house plants, or poke around in your garden. Don't overlook primrose and columbine (aquilegia). They are so very different.

Ever see an elm tree in bloom? Lots of people will say, "Oh yes," because they think the clusters of winged seeds are the flowers. The blossom is very obscure, has no petals, and is usually just a quarter-inch bunch of dull red-brown threads on the bare branches of a tall tree not easy of close examination. Watch the bare, gray branches against the sky, and when they take on a warm tone and begin to look a bit warty manage somehow or other to get hold of some twigs and see the blossoms for yourself.

A friend of mine hired a small boy to climb on top of her car; I brazenly borrowed a stepladder from complete strangers and found myself surrounded by the highly interested members of the household from Grandad and Aunt Jane to Jimmy and Sister Sue. Elms were right in their own front yard, blossoming every year, and not once had any one of them ever noticed the flowers, though they had been conscious enough of the gutters full of paper-penny seeds year by year!

Ever notice that the leaves of practically all members of the elm genus have mumps on one margin? (Technically margins are unequal.) A little Girl Scout in Washington gave me this jollier name for it.

One could go on to fill a book with larky tree projects, but here is only one more. Make ink prints of leaves as a souvenir of your adventures with trees. All you need will be a printer's brayer (gelatin roller), some printer's ink (preferably green), a sheet of glass about 8 by 10 inches, and a loose-leaf notebook of unlined paper. Merely printing and naming leaves is not much fun nor as significant as making pages that tell a story. For instance, a page each of all the kinds of oaks or maples or orchard fruits or nuts in your vicinity, or types of leaves and veining or margins or textures or all of the leaves you discover that have glands, or leaves nibbled or skeletonized by insects, or—but I must get on to something besides trees!

Let's Talk About Birds!

Let's talk about birds—hardest of all but most delightful because the liveliest. If you are content merely to identify them—well, there is considerable satisfaction in that, and of course one does eventually want to know their names. But ever so much more enriching and important is it to know the birds as individuals; to find out, by watching what they do, how, when, and why they do it.

Hang a doughnut by a string to a twig outside your window or a pint tin of drippings, mixed with bread crumbs and chopped nuts and raisins, into which a stick has been inserted for a perch; or tack a clean, firm piece of suet to a fence post or tree trunk; or fill half an orange skin with rolled oats rubbed with peanut butter; or crumble up some nice, greasy corn bread, and then watch your feathered guests by the hour.

Have you ever actually seen the third shutter-like eyelid which birds use when they wink? Hang around a poultry yard for this or visit a zoo, as it is more easily seen in larger birds. At the same time discover which eyelid a bird uses chiefly in closing the eye.

Then proceed to find out how many toes birds have and how they are placed on the perch. Compare canaries with lovebirds for this. Owls have a reversible toe so they can perch either way. It's a thrill to watch the owls in a zoo until you've caught them in both positions—not too easy because so much of the time the body feathers conceal the perch. The shape of birds' feet and bills as correlated with their manner of food-getting and kind of food eaten is a fascinating study.

Find Out for Yourself!

For really exciting nature adventures let me recommend you never to content yourself with a passive acceptance of any scientific statement you hear or read. Grab your hat and dash right out and find out for yourself whether it is true or not! Transform the dry, dead fact into a vivid, living adventure for yourself.

One day I read in a nature book that the earthworm cannot progress on glass or other very smooth surface upon which the setae (minute bristles) cannot hold. "Ha," thought I, "that should interest the nature leaders to whom I am to talk this afternoon." I phoned one woman to bring some earthworms and another a sheet of glass, and in due time I explained the fact I had read and proceeded to demonstrate it. The glass was placed on the floor in the center of the circle. The earthworms were placed on the glass. Breathlessly we awaited their frustrated efforts to move across the glass. Picture our surprise and consternation when every little earthworm "pro-

gressed" with speed ("earthwormily" speaking)! We thought it might be because some of the earth in the can still clung to the worms, so an excited delegation took them to the lavatory, washed the worms and the glass perfectly clean of earth (nearly lost them down the drain), and returned in a definitely hilarious mood to the expectant group. The clean, wet worms were placed on the clean, wet glass and again progressed spryly.

Well, that was that! I wrote a merry, saucy letter to the author and received a delightful letter in reply confessing he had read his "fact" in another book and had not experimented to prove or disprove it. Anyway, we all agreed that even an earthworm is exciting and interesting.

That wasn't the end of my earthworm adventures. I heard that in the state of Washington they have earthworms as large as lead pencils, and when they want some for bait they don't bother to dig them but tickle them out of the ground with a mild charge of electricity. Can you picture my impatience to witness that? This was at Fort Lewis before the war. A captain was dispatched to borrow the proper gadgets — two long steel spikes, each with a 50-foot wire attached to a plug that could be screwed into a socket. A mere trifle of drizzling rain did not deter us. With coats over our heads we poured out onto the lawn, plugged in the gadget, plunged the spikes into the ground a short distance apart, and waited with bated breath. At first I thought it wasn't going to work, but after a very few seconds a great shout went up when out of the ground came wriggling and squirming and pouring more earthworms than I ever dreamed (even after reading Charles Darwin) could inhabit a square yard of lawn. Another time I lay prone on the ground for an hour watching an earthworm eat its way back into the ground. More fun!

Photo by Edwin Way Teale

Fun at the Seashore

If you live near the coast there are so many more exciting things to do than just collect and label pretty shells. Only once in my life have I watched a starfish open and devour a clam, extruding its pale, amber-colored jellylike stomach into the clam's open shell, digesting the clam there, and then withdrawing the stomach back where it belongs. Adding insult to injury that seemed to me!

Only once have I watched the entire process of a crab shedding its shell. I have in my collection this cast shell and the preserved and much larger soft-shelled creature that emerged before my eyes. Have you ever sat so quietly beside a tide pool that you could watch a crab eat its dinner, picking bits of seaweed from the rocks and stuffing them greedily into its mouth, first with one large claw, then with the other? Ever fed a sea anemone with bits of mussel meat and watched the sensitive tentacles close over the choice morsel and crowd it down into the cavity that might be called its stomach? Two pieces, or even four, dropped at once are conducive to confusion for the anemone and heightened interest for the onlooker.

Any time the tide is low enough for you to reach mussels attached to the rocks with tough brown threads called "byssus," you can enjoy the interesting experience of watching a mussel spin fresh byssus. Cut the mussel loose from the rock with a sharp knife and place it in a basin of sea water.

(Continued on page 670)

"What's the Name of My Bird?"

By CLARA HUSSONG
Green Bay, Wisconsin

THE PHONE RINGS and the family looks at me expectantly.

"Go on, answer it, it's for you," they tell me in sarcastic tones. "Someone's seen a new bird."

I pick up the receiver.

"Is this the Bird Lady?"

"Yes," I say cautiously, remembering the many calls from waggish friends describing a bird with the head of a dove, the body of a bobolink, and the voice of a screech owl.

"I've just seen a new bird. No one around here has ever seen one like it." A triumphant pause.

"Yes?" I say encouragingly.

"Well, it's about as big as a robin," and so on. If my caller is at all observant I can usually furnish the answer. The invariable comeback is, "Is that what it is?" in joyful or disappointed tones, depending upon whether the bird's name is strange or familiar to the questioner. Any bird with "sparrow" attached to its name always receives a dubious welcome. The casual observer does not know that among our native sparrows are species which are still being studied as to nesting habits, food, breeding range, and other particulars.

Last year a new bird invaded the northern part of Wisconsin where I live. This was the tufted titmouse, a relative of our common chickadee. In the South and West it is a common bird, and in its natural range it extends northward to New Jersey and across the country to Nebraska. For a number of years it has been reported as a rare and casual visitor in southern Wisconsin, but its appearance in Green Bay marked its first visit so far north. Everyone at all interested in birds wanted a glimpse of the little stranger with its pointed crest, and the woman to whose feeding stand it came daily was besieged with visitors.

During this excitement a friend called me, telling of her "new" bird. "It has a crest!" she told me breathlessly, and then want on describing the cedar waxwing so perfectly down to the last detail that I thought she was "spoofing" and knew her bird.

"Go on, Doris," I told her. "You know what that is." "Oh, sure," she said happily. "The tufted titmouse."

Other Questions to Be Answered

The questions that come to me are not always of the "what-bird-is-that" type. What to feed young birds who have lost their parents, is one which comes frequently. All parent birds, even the confirmed seed eaters, start their babies on a soft food diet, insects and other bugs. If you can't catch enough flies, mosquitoes, or caterpillars, try scrambled eggs, cottage cheese, and finely ground meat.

For very young birds, everything must be finely chopped. A fellow bird lover in this town raised a nestful of young robins successfully by feeding them chopped angleworms fried with scrambled eggs.

Fixing up a bird's broken wing or leg is out of my sphere and I refer my questioner to someone who has had experience as a bird doctor. What to feed caterpillars, emerging moths, and butterflies, how to rid a house of clothes moths, cockroaches, bats, and flying squirrels, and naming useful books and types of field glasses are among the requests for information that come my way.

Even the crossword puzzle fans find me useful, especially when it comes to Latin names of genera or species. When my inquirer says, "No, no, it must have nine letters, the second one 'T'," I recognize the puzzle fan and cooperate heartily, for I, too, like to fill in the squares.

Seasonal Calls

It is obvious that at certain seasons the calls are more numerous than at others. Five or six years ago when starlings first became numerous around here, everyone wanted to know what the strange bird with the short tail and yellow bill might be. An inquirer from a neighboring town sent me a live starling in a shoe box. I guessed what it might be before opening the box, and when I lifted the cover a little and saw the oft-described long yellow bill poking out, my suspicions were confirmed.

Now starlings are as common as robins and house sparrows, and even the children know them. Incidentally, in a survey made by Owen J. Gromme of the Milwaukee Museum to determine the spread of the starling in the state, my report for the starling in March, 1934, was the first written record of the bird for this area. I had lived here only a short time, and the starlings had been here for a number of years in scattered flocks, but no one had thought to make a written record of their first appearance.

"Spring, summer, winter, fall — each has its quota of adventures and thrills for those who keep their eyes open for birds. The sight of thousands upon thousands of whistling swans like piled-up snow on the sand bars of the bay is one thrill never to be missed in April. Snow buntings executing their swirling dance in a January snowstorm; blue herons poised motionless in sun-heated shallow streams on a hot August afternoon; wild geese sailing high at potato picking time — all these and many more are events which come every year."

Some winters, evening grosbeaks, wanderers from western Canada, are very numerous, and at those times my phone rings all day long. At such times I am tempted to say "evening grosbeak" without waiting for a description of the "new" bird.

Bird Club Organized

Five years ago, at the close of my first night school nature study courses, we organized a bird club. This is a misnomer because on our field trips we study everything from earth stars to fish. New members and visitors sometimes make the mistake of appearing in high heels and "Sunday" clothes, but they never make that error again! Both sexes and all ages are represented in the club.

On our hikes the most studious of us have made

Wild Duck Reserve at Lake Merritt in Oakland, California

Courtesy Oakland, California, Recreation Department

it a habit to identify every bird, bush, flower, insect, or other nature specimen we run across. Recently, on one of these excursions, someone pointed to a tree growing near a fence and asked what species of pine it was. A careless glance showed me a reddish trunk under the pine boughs. "Red pine," I answered promptly. To impress it upon my listeners I walked to the tree, grasped a spray of needles and began:

"White pine always has five needles in a cluster and red has two." I stopped, for I saw that the spray I held was not made up of the long flexible needles of the red pine, but of the shorter spreading needles of the white. Puzzled, I looked again at the trunk and discovered that what I had mistaken for the tree's trunk was a cedar fence post, set under the tree and hiding its real trunk!

"That's bad," my questioner shook his head at me. "It's all right to name every bird and flower and tree, but when you start on the fence posts, that's going too far."

Nature Specialization

For the old-timer in nature study whose wonder and curiosity may have become somewhat dulled, specializing in one group or order of plants, birds, rocks, or any other branch, is a good way to revive interest and keep the powers of observation on the alert. The old familiar hunting grounds become new fields again when you try to find all the species of wild mints extant in your neighborhood, or when you are taking a census of grasses at the edge of town. Specializing brings back all the thrills of the old days when discovering Nature was like finding a new and wonderful land.

The summer I devoted to sparrows was an extremely happy one. For years I had known all the common varieties: the song, field, chipping, fox, vesper, tree, white-throated and white-crowned sparrows, but when I began exploring the old marshes and meadows edging the bay, I found some of the lesser-known: savanna, clay-colored, grasshopper, LeConte's and Henslow's sparrows. I made no startling discoveries, but according to Arthur A. Allen, I did accomplish something unique.

In his *Book of Bird Life,* Mr. Allen says he has never known anyone to discover the Henslow's sparrow for himself. Because of the bird's retiring habits and weak song he is seldom noticed among his noisier relatives of the grassy wastelands.

One early spring day I sat under a clump of dogwood listening to birds and watching them crisscross in flight before me. Watching and waiting is a better method than giving chase, as any old hand in the game will tell you. Suddenly a small brownish bird, unmistakably a sparrow, hopped on a twig only a few feet from me. Which small sparrow has a greenish tinge around its head and neck, I wondered. The bird book answered, "Henslow's." Since then I've seen it several times in its spring migration and have heard it sing its peculiar hiccoughing song.

City Bird Watcher

In the spring, city parks, gardens and tree-lined streets are as good for watching birds as country spots. One of our local parks is a haven for migrating birds, a sort of terminal where birds rest and feed before continuing their journeys. In the years I have been visiting the park, I have counted ninety species of birds frequenting the place, which is only two square blocks in size and is situated right in town.

While observing warblers there one day in May I was more than usually up in the clouds, revelling in the unbelievably beautiful shades of blue, green, orange, and red that flashed all around me. Field glasses screwed to my eyes, I chased one flaming bit of color after another, not trying to identify any of the dozen or more species, but simply gloating over the amazing spectacle. The voice of a park bench sitter brought me down to earth.

"Seen any birds?"

Are field glasses a necessity for bird study? No, not if you have the time and patience to sit still for long periods, until the birds come close enough for you to note all their markings. Without field glasses, by the time you have learned to know your bird, you will have learned something of its song, its food, and its flight habits as well as its appearance. Glasses do help you to identify a bird much more quickly but, speaking for myself, I know less about the birds I met via field glasses than I do about those I learned to know by the old watching and waiting method.

For the lone lady watcher, glasses sometimes come in handy. Before I had time I used often to see a farmer stop his horses or his tractor when he caught sight of me exploring the roadside or the woodland near the field where he was working. "What can she be doing?" he probably wondered. Now when this happens I merely raise my glasses and look up into the nearest tree, whether there is a bird there or not, and the farmer promptly

(Continued on page 670)

A Schoolyard Sanctuary

By EDWIN WAY TEALE

Photograph by Edwin W. Teale

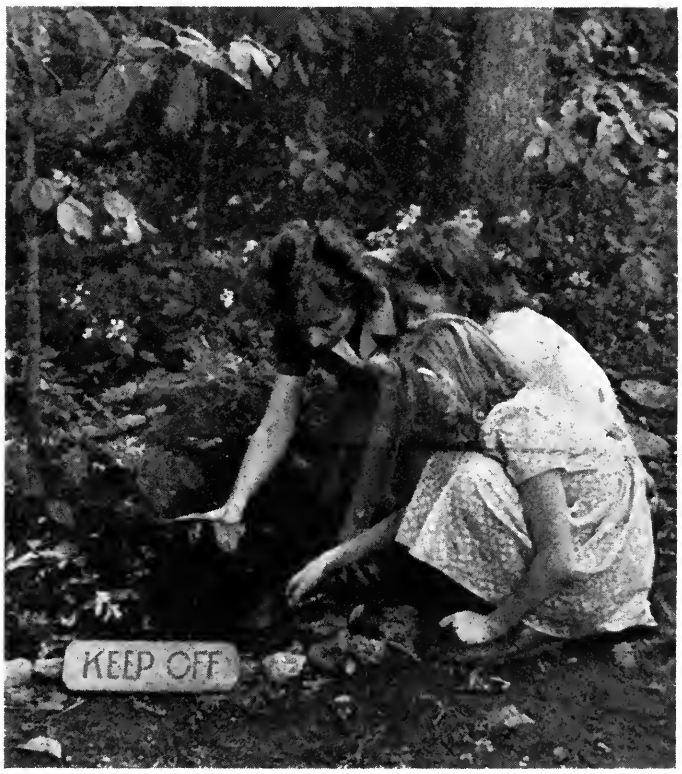
A story of splendid accomplishment by some school children who became interested in developing a woodland sanctuary and a miniature museum

IN THE SOUTHWEST corner of a country schoolyard, six miles from Peekskill, New York, a simple and interesting idea is proving an eminent success. It is a project that is applicable in thousands of schoolyards throughout the country; an idea of immense importance in the advancement of nature study and conservation. This idea is the development of a miniature living museum and a woodland sanctuary created by, for, and of the children in the school.

The site of this miniature outdoor museum is on the edge of a wood that forms the southern boundary of the schoolyard. The rest of this timbered tract has been left untouched, except for the cutting of nature trails. It provides a natural sanctuary for native forms of wildlife, containing feeding stations and bird houses.

Most of the work was done by the boys and girls of the third and fourth grades under the direction of three teachers. At first, when small parts of the underbrush had to be cleared away where too dense shade existed, boys of the sixth grade helped out. The younger children then added baskets of rich black loam, brought from the interior of the wood. Small granite rocks were collected and used to mark off trails that wind about through the midget preserve. Violets, and other woodland plants, soon were established in the loam of the area.

Work was begun in the fall, and a good start had been achieved before winter set in. Between autumn and spring, several meetings were held to plan what should be done when the snow melted and warm weather arrived again. Nearly fifty children from the third, fourth and sixth grades took part in these meetings and made their suggestions. Meanwhile, several



Photograph by Edwin W. Teale

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of the boys were busy with saws and sandpaper, wood-burning instruments and varnish. In the school's woodworking shop, they produced artistic signs to mark the different species of trees found within the confines of the sanctuary. In the same shop, benches were produced from sticks and from selected logs of birch.

To aid in the identification of plant and animal life, addtional nature volumes were added to the school library. By the time spring arrived, a schedule of "Things to Do" had been worked out, with the best time for doing each decided upon in advance. One of the first jobs was putting up a large sign reading: WILDLIFE SANCTUARY. It was created from pieces of birch nailed to a wide board that was hung by wires between two oak trees.

Since that day steady progress has been made. Half a dozen bird houses, built by the children, have been put in place among the branches of the trees. New plants have been added to the sanctuary collection—lady's slippers, Jack-in-the-pulpits, wild geraniums, hepaticas, wild columbines, wood anemones, rattlesnake plants and various species of wood ferns. As the project has advanced, interest has spread outward from the school. A local florist contributed needed birch logs, and the community librarian suggested books that would be helpful. Children talked about the sanctuary at home and parents came to see it. Thus, the older people of the community as well as the children are being educated in the needs of conservation.

Within the area of the sanctuary, pairs of towhees, scarlet tanagers, wrens and robins have built their nests. The home life of the tanagers, which the children could observe clearly by sitting on the ground beneath one of the oak trees, provided a living serial story that continued from day to day. Another event in the sanctuary was the sudden appearance of thousands of winged ants from the decaying stump in which a colony had made its home.

Rabbits, chipmunks, gray squirrels and even a

Photograph by Edwin W. Teale

wild deer—which appeared at the edge of the woods one autumn day with its fawn—are among the animals encountered. Wood frogs and box turtles, tree frogs, garter snakes and salamanders, have put in an appearance from time to time. One tortoise became a special pet, occupying a terrarium in the science room.

In numerous ways school work and the sanctuary have been linked together. In teaching science study, instruction in natural history is largely based on the wild life found in this fragment of woodland and the timbered area beyond.

Other classes than those in science have derived benefit from the schoolyard corner sanctuary. English and drawing had their day when the children of the fourth grade produced a twenty-two-page mimeographed book to tell the story of the project. Called "The Garden of Thrills," it contains drawings and descriptions of the main flowers and birds found in the preserve, a record of the development of the idea, original poems by the students, and plans for the future.

Photograph by Edwin W. Teale

All in all, this small area at the Putnam Valley Central School has paid high dividends. The project has been neither expensive nor difficult. It is one that might be duplicated at almost any country school. Few things would contribute more to the cause of nature study than the swift spread of this idea and the appearance of similar schoolyard sanctuaries in all parts of Canada and the United States.

In such a program are the fundamentals of conservation a subject of vital importance.

Additional information on such nature laboratories as Mr. Teale describes is to be found in a report by Reynold Carlson, who has the following to say about school outdoor laboratories and other phases of a nature program for children:

Schools have long recognized the need for first-hand nature experiences for children as a part of their education. School gardens, school camps, outdoor science and nature laboratories, and school museums have been established. One of the significant expansions in recent years has been that of school forests and outdoor nature areas as a part of the school program. In 1943 there were 841 school forests reported in the United States. Wisconsin, New York, and Michigan have led the way in the acquisition of school forest lands. In Wisconsin, cut-over, tax-delinquent land was acquired by school boards and designated as school forest land.

The school forests have generally served as illustrations of forestry practice. In addition, in many cases they are used as outdoor laboratories for nature study by younger groups, and for the study of botany, biology, entomology, and geology by older students. Such areas also meet recreational needs by providing spots for picnicking, camping, fishing, swimming, and other outdoor activities for community groups.

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"The Wearin' o' the Green"

A date ever to be remembered and joyfully celebrated — March 17th, St. Patrick's Day

THE IRISH rightly claim St. Patrick as patron saint of their country, and they delight to honor his memory in the many ways to which we have all grown accustomed. Above all, they "wear the green." A sprig of shamrock worn conspicuously is the insignia of a true Irishman anywhere. There are colorful parades in many places; social affairs in homes or places of public entertainment. They talk about the good saint of Ireland who built churches and converted the country to Christianity. They know the legends of the home of their forefathers and repeat them to their children.

The rest of us of other nationalities like so many of the ways in which the sons of Erin celebrate St. Patrick's Day that we fall in and use green in our party decorations and give St. Patrick's Day almost as much observance as the loyal Irishmen of our community do. Here are a few suggestions for a party.

Invitations

A shamrock, cut from either white or green cardboard, may carry the message, or green St. Patrick's hats can be cut out and mounted on white cards:

O,....., dear, and did you hear
The news that's goin' round,
We're givin' a party
For St. Patrick and his crowd
at
..... (Place) .....
On..... (Date, time) .....

Decorations

Shamrocks, pipes, hats, and snakes cut from green paper and displayed about the party room, dangling from the ceiling, on walls, curtains, and lampshades, give a festive air. Jonquils or other spring flowers may be used as a center piece for the table, with green candles stuck into candleholders made from Irish potatoes. Cardboard shamrocks may be cut out and will serve as place mats, or a white tablecloth decorated with gummed Irish cutouts, bought at low cost from any novelty store, would be appropriate for the occasion.

Green, orange, and white are the usual colors used in decorating for the St. Patrick's Day party room, with green predominating, of course. Small Irish flags may be stuck into flower pots and used as place cards by sticking a flag into a green gum drop and fastening the gum drop to a plain white card on which the name of the guest is printed in green ink. Green crepe paper can be bought and cut into streamers which may be twisted and hung about the room.

Games

Blarney Stone. It's the famous Blarney Stone that begins the fun. Players have to talk and act quickly to avoid paying forfeits in this lively game. The group is seated in a circle. A small stone, the Blarney Stone, is passed around. As each person receives it, he must wish aloud something for his neighbor to do. At unexpected intervals the leader blows a whistle. The unlucky person caught with the Blarney Stone must execute the wish expressed by the neighbor who passed the stone to him. You may look for some hilarious stunts if the players are in the right mood for this game! Play until six or eight have performed.

Irish Sweepstakes. Players are arranged in relay formation. In turn, they sweep a small wooden stake to the goal line with a broom or stick. Upon returning to the starting line, the next person in line is given the broom and stake. Green candies make a suitable prize for the winning team.

Shamrock Hunt. Hide many little green paper shamrocks about the room. On each one letter a G or an S. When the hunt is over, each person counts the number of sham-

rocks he has found. The one with the largest number is the winner. Now ask each player to count the S's or G's and to form two teams, the Greens and the Shamrocks for the next game.

Irish Bowling. Set up ten soft drink bottles in bowling formation in front of both teams. Each team appoints a scorekeeper. One point is scored for each bottle overturned by a potato which is rolled on the floor from a line 15 feet away. One chance is given to each person. Scorers keep a record of the total number of bottles knocked over, and the winners receive a prize of homemade potato candy.

Cork Cargo. Divide the players into relay formation. Give the first person two toothpicks, a paper Dixie cup, and ten tiny corks. Give the second person another paper cup. On the word to begin, the first person lifts a cork from his cup to number two's cup by picking up the cork between the toothpicks. This action is repeated until all of the ten corks are passed to the next person. The empty cup is now passed to the third person in line, and the passing by toothpick process is repeated by the second person in each line. The relay is over when the last person in line carries the paper cup containing the ten corks to the front of the line.

Buying Paddy's Pig. Give each person ten beans and five small pig cutouts. Announce that the players will have ten minutes to see who can get the most beans and the most pigs by selling the pigs for as many beans as possible, and buying other pigs for as few beans as possible. Give a pig bank to the winner.

Utensils for a Mulligan Stew. Divide the group into two lines by having them count off, the one's forming one line and the two's forming the other. Place a chair at the end of each line. The first person of each line is given a pie pan with one of each of the following articles: tablespoon, salt shaker, small strainer, egg beater, teaspoon, and an individual pie pan. At a signal, the articles are passed, one at a time, to the other end of the line. Each player's hand must touch each article and the next article is not started until the preceding one gets to the end person, who places it on the chair beside him. After all articles have reached the end, the last player immediately starts the articles back to the leader. The side wins which gets all the articles back to the leader first.

Print by Gedge Harmon

Shamrock Contest. Give each contestant a green paper and a pencil, and give a prize for the best man or animal made by using shamrocks for the bodies, legs, arms, and heads.

Irish Words. Prepare as many slips containing a letter of the alphabet as there are players and add an extra set of vowels for each alphabet. Separate alphabets are on different colored paper or are written in different colors. Each player may be provided with a blank card. A letter slip is pinned on each player. Four or more players link arms to form a word, which must relate to the day (Irish, Saint, pig, etc.), and go to the group leader who writes the word on the card of each member of the word. They then disperse to form other words. Players in each alphabet group work together and the group wins which has the highest total of eligible words.

A St. Patrick's Menu

Shamrock Sandwiches (Cream cheese colored with green, spread on bread cut in shape of shamrock)

Irish Crisps (Potato chips)

Green Delights (Olives and pickles)

Patty's Cupcakes (Chocolate cupcakes with green frosting topped with a tiny Irish flag)

Pistachio Ice Cream

Mint Tea

Photo by Reynold E. Carlson

Pets in the Home

By REYNOLD E. CARLSON
National Recreation Association

THE TODDLER reaches out chubby arms to embrace his dog or cat. The old man sits quietly by the fireside with his dog curled at his feet. For them and for all the ages between pets afford pleasure, companionship, and love far out of proportion to the troubles involved in their care. Few indeed are those persons to whom the possession of a pet—be it dog, cat, bird, wild creature, or even unresponsive goldfish—does not bring an enrichment of life and a greater understanding of nature's ways.

For the child particularly is pet ownership important. The child who has never had a pet has missed one of the great opportunities for learning which can come from caring for, playing with, and watching animals; he has missed the solemn responsibility of having another living creature dependent upon his care; and he has missed one of the keenest joys of childhood.

What Animals Make Good Pets?

Dogs and Cats. It is said that historically the longest close unbroken relationships between man and animals have been between man and his dog and man and his horse. While the horse has been used primarily to help man with his work and as a means of transportation, the dog has usually been man's companion primarily because of the personal satisfaction man has received from that relationship. The dog has flattered man's vanity and has been more able than any other animal to adjust himself to the ways of man, forsaking his own kind to enter man's household. He has given not only companionship but also partnership in play. "A man's best friend is his dog" may not be literally true, but the loyalty, affection and understanding that many dogs demonstrate have made the dog the most universally appreciated pet in the animal kingdom.

Though the cat, too, has always been a favorite home pet, it has not given man the flattering attention he has received from the dog. Beautiful to look at and pleasant to caress, the cat has, in man's belief at least, merely tolerated him as the source of food and shelter. There is seldom the sympathetic understanding between cat and man as between dog and man. The cat receives attention; the dog both gives and receives it.

Farmyard Animals. Many farmyard animals and dwellers of woods and fields make excellent and interesting pets. "When is such an animal a pet?" might well be asked. When we achieve a personal relationship with an animal which gives satisfaction without ulterior motives, that animal may be called a pet. Ducks, geese, chickens, rabbits, sheep, calves, and even pigs have attained the status of pets.

One of my pleasant memories is of a young pig that became a camp pet. In the region of our camp a number of escaped pigs had "gone wild." Some of the older campers discovered a sow with a litter of young. After hours of pursuit, they captured

one of the young and brought it back to camp. Within a few days the piglet was following at the heels of the boy in whose care he had been placed, and even at evening campfire programs and outdoor religious services he was close at hand. At the end of the camp season the pig had to be left behind in the hands of a farmer, but such affection had been aroused by that clowning porker pet that there were tears in the eyes of the boys in parting.

Wild Animals. Of the wild animals there are many that make admirable pets, provided the owner properly understands their capabilities. He must not expect virtues in wild animals which they do not possess. Particularly he must take care not to mix certain animals that through generations of wild life have been natural enemies. Even though there are a few cases where the animals may become friends, generally it is impossible.

Wild animals taken while young may make good pets, whereas adults of the same species seldom attain that distinction. In selecting young animals it is important that they be old enough to survive without their mother's care, and yet young enough to adjust to the new situation.

In many cases wild animals may attain the status of pets without ever being touched or confined by men. Such is the case, for example, with some of our squirrels, who may adjust themselves to us in our backyards and parks, losing their fear sufficiently to take food from our hands and giving us the opportunity to watch them close at hand. Such pets are generally better off when free to come and go.

Some of the mammals listed below have made good pets where conditions for proper care were available.

Red squirrels. These squirrels tend to be nervous and excitable.

Gray squirrels. Less nervous than the red squirrels, these respond well to outdoor "taming."

Flying squirrels. Because of their nocturnal habits these squirrels do not furnish daytime amusement. They are, however, extremely interesting animals.

Mice. White-footed and meadow mice are often kept in captivity.

Raccoons. Young raccoons make excellent pets, but because of great activity and thieving habits they cannot be allowed the run of the house.

Skunks. Contrary to common belief, skunks make fine pets. If the scent glands are removed, skunks may have the run of the house much like cats. Home-raised skunks may be kept without the removal of scent glands. However, accidents might happen if the animals are suddenly frightened.

Woodchucks. Raised from babyhood, woodchucks are good pets. They seem to enjoy handling.

Birds. While canaries, love birds, and parrots are the most usual pets among the birds, there are other possibilities in the bird world, particularly if the pet "owner" does not insist upon keeping his pet in captivity and is content to have him in his yard.

Birds combine beauty of feather, form, and song, with grace of movement. In addition, most birds have economic value as destroyers of noxious insects and weed seeds. As a result, most of our wild birds are strictly protected by state and federal laws which prohibit killing, trapping, or keeping them in captivity.

Though most of our birds cannot be kept as captives, birds can be attracted to homes through judicious plantings, feeding trays, and nesting devices, even in our largest cities. Nesting boxes

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Young 'coons make fine pets. But watch out for their thieving ways.

Photo by Reynold E. Carlson

Honors to a Recreation Park

By OLIVE PEARSON RICE

STANLEY PARK in Westfield, Massachusetts, has received for the second consecutive year one of the coveted plaques awarded by the National Victory Garden Institute of New York to industrial and other organizations throughout the country which contributed vitally to the Victory Garden program. Stanley Park bows in grateful acknowledgement of this national honor.

Yet this forty-acre park didn't start out to be the "common or garden variety," though it has been glad to step out of character for the duration to aid in the war effort. For this divertisement, the eighteen acres of cleared land which had been apportioned for a bowling green, football and baseball fields, tennis courts, horseshoes, dance floor, playground, and what not, were all ploughed under when Uncle Sam called for help for his food program, and these acres have been nobly bearing fruit, or rather vegetables, for the market baskets of the townsfolk.

Comparatively new, this park, which has twenty-two acres of forest including thirty-five varieties of trees, a holly dingle, a lake, and the "Enchanted Oak" with its encircling grove is a project of Frank Stanley Beveridge, president of the Stanley Home Products, Inc., of Westfield. Its purpose is to provide recreation facilities for the 5,000 dealers when they visit the home office from all

"Happy voices of the employees and their families rise spontaneously from the boats on the lake"

Stanley Park in Westfield, Massachusetts, for the second time has won national honors for its contribution to the war effort through the cultivation of Victory Gardens. After the war it will serve employees of Stanley Home Products, Inc., and townspeople as well, with a greatly expanded program.

over these United States, and for the hundreds of local employees in their free time.

Parties galore have been staged in its dells, and the happy voices of the employees and their families rise spontaneously from the picnic grove with its fireplaces, and from the boats on the lake, to greet the stars. Construction of an open air amphitheater to accommodate a thousand people had to be dropped when bombs fell on Pearl Harbor, but the silviculture around the area is shaping up and the structure will come into rapid completion with the cessation of hostilities abroad. When the park is ready, its facilities will be thrown open to the public at large so that groups, organizations, and institutions may avail themselves of the park privileges for recreational and educational purposes.

Mr. Beveridge is a great lover of flowers and nature as a whole, and some years ago had a greenhouse erected on his business acreage to provide an abundant supply of cut flowers and flowering plants for the offices and for certain special occasions in the town. In charge of this he placed an expert horticulturist who, with the aid of two assistants, not only keeps the flowers and plants blooming the year around, but produced 10,000 tomato and 5,000 pepper plants from seed in the hothouse, and between 4,000 and 5,000 cauliflower and cabbage plants designed to supply both the factory's Victory Garden and the 148 individual Victory Gardens of the employees.

The employees' Victory Gardens, which took up every available bit of land around the several factory buildings, flourished, and the eighteen acre recreation-park-company-garden produced abundant yields of tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage, corn, beans, cauliflower and peppers, among other things.

What about the manpower shortage in such an undertaking? Volunteers were recruited from the factories to work in the factories' recreation park fields during the growing seasons, instead of at their inside work. Came the harvest moon, and the company proudly held a Victory Harvest Festival at which prizes were awarded. Deserving of honorable mention among the contestants was one woman worker over sixty years old who won twenty-six prizes and over $75 in cash for her bit in the war effort!

Stanley Park came into being as a direct outgrowth of Mr. Beveridge's business policy. Business is a means of helping people, Mr. Beveridge explains, and the more helpful he has tried to be the more success has come to him. In less than fourteen years his brush business has expanded from an old tobacco shed in 1931 to its several humming factories of today which are partially engaged in war work, making bronze brushes for .50 calibre guns. These are used to clean the barrels of Thompson sub-machine guns.

Again his fine business policy functions in his postwar plans, for of the 100 men from the factories and the fifty men from the field in the armed forces, every man's job awaits his return. This promise was given long before Uncle Sam made the matter obligatory. Furthermore, the men who will be replaced by the returning veterans after, and during, the war, will all be kept on in the company, and some of them plan to go to work in the park project which will then begin to swing into its full stride.

When the peace is won and the brave men return to civilian life, then the Stanley Park Victory Gardens will doff their war dungarees and become again a reservation for various recreations and sports. This year the ground where the amphitheater is being developed will be reseeded and arbor vitae planted on each side. In the rear will rise graceful Lombardy poplars. This amphitheater space, cleared in the midst of the woods, is lovely even now as the sunshine comes filtering through the oaks, birches, and pines. The forest and parkway is a rendezvous for a great variety of birds and other wild life. In the springtime the forest floor is covered with a colorful assortment of wildflowers, including the pink and yellow orchids.

Already paths, named for various zones, have been laid out through the woods. For instance, there is the Texas Trail, fashioned after southern trails, which winds its way past the holly dingle where grows the holly tree sent on from Trenton. The tree is carefully covered in winter and comes through beautifully in spite of the general opinion, "it can't be done." Other trees and shrubs such as thorn apple, swamp pink, and laurel give variety to the trail. The park maintains its own tree nursery.

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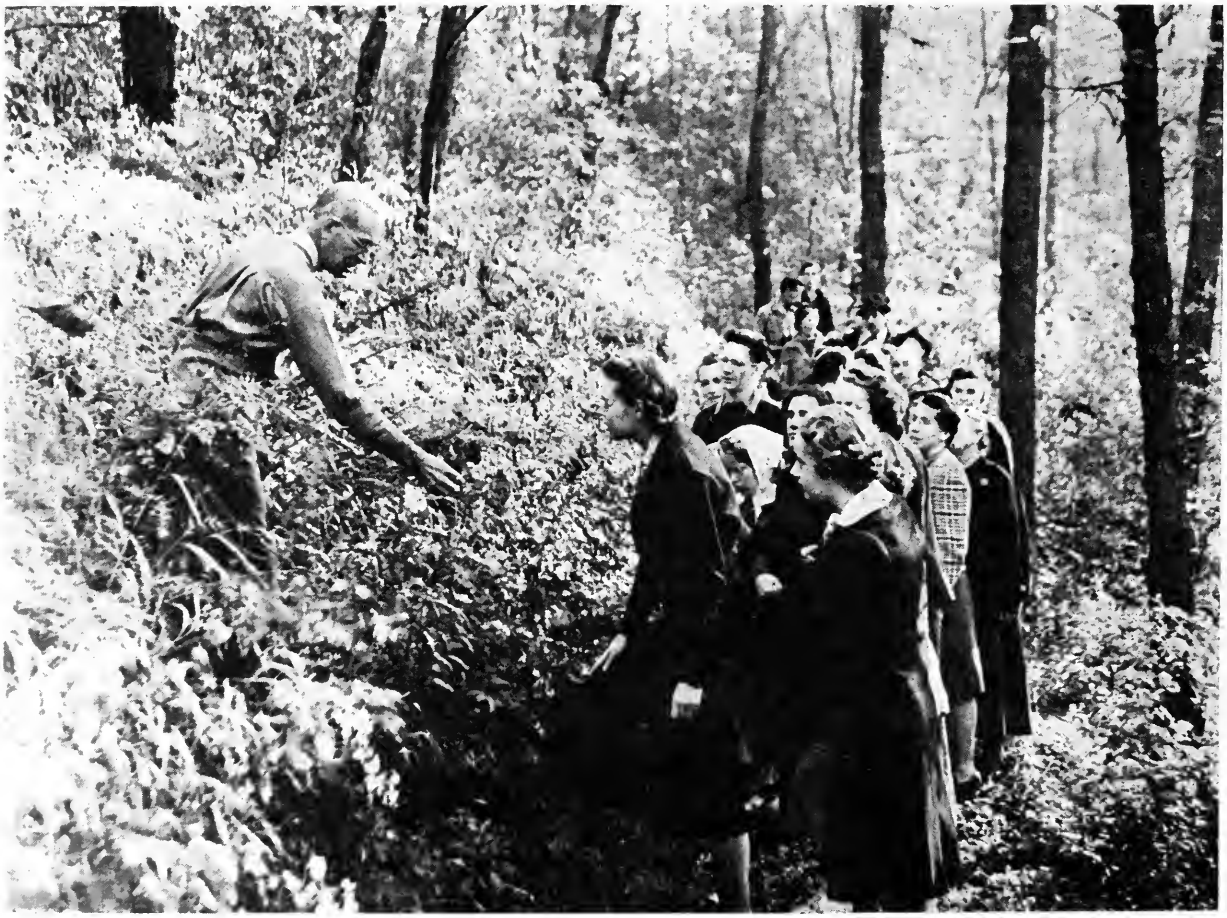
Nature Recreation

AS PARK ORGANIZATIONS, we have always stood for joy and relaxation, both of which were services of inestimable value to our communities. This promotion of physical and mental health will and must always be one of our prime concerns. However, in order to base these upon a lasting foundation, we must offer our citizens opportunities for nature education. The recent depression showed us that we as a people had relied very much upon what might be called "man-made recreation." Golf balls, transportation to the links, tennis balls, stringing of tennis rackets, admission fees for movies, theaters and concerts, purchase of wood, metals, paints, wools for craft work had suddenly become financially impossible and we were left high and dry.

There are some resources which no depression can take from us. No depression can deprive us of our trees and flowers, insects, birds, sunsets, stars, and storms. To thoroughly enjoy and appreciate these one must be intelligent about the marvels of nature they demonstrate and represent. We must, therefore, help our youth and adults to view the beauties and wonders all about, not only in a sentimental manner but with intelligent appreciation. It is the latter that gives the deep and lasting joy.

Our national parks are setting a grand example in this field of education. Many local park systems have made most commendable beginnings along this line. However, we are all agreed that we still have a far way to go to meet all the possibilities open to us through maximum and new uses of our facilities.

It is we who control the facilities which can bring this joy through nature into the life of



Courtesy Oglebay Institute

"There are some resources which no depression can take from us"

America. A serious responsibility rests upon us. We must evolve a program of nature activities and of cooperation with other educational and recreational agencies.

The report, which is reprinted by permission from the September-October, 1944, issue of *Parks and Recreation,* was signed by Frank T. Garside, General Chairman of the Educational Committee, George L. Chesley, Major Raymond Hoyt, Jerome C. Dretzka, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, and Dorothy Enderis.

Contacts with Nature

We must re-establish the contact between our people and nature: re-establish because to our forefathers nature was a close ally. Primitive man was totally dependent upon nature. It was very necessary that he know the habitat and ways of beast, bird and fish. He was dependent upon them not only for food; their hides and feathers gave him clothing, shelter and covering; their bones provided weapons and household implements.

Through his knowledge of clay he was able to meet his household needs of pottery. Knowledge of rocks and minerals provided weapons, tools, household utensils. Reeds, willows, grasses and fibers provided mats and baskets. Hemp, cotton, wool were fashioned into fibers and woven into fabrics on crude looms. Nature supplied the dyes. Designs for pottery, fabric, and other materials were nature-inspired. Plants were cultivated for food. Herbs, leaves, barks, blossoms were known for medicinal values.

Much of these nature contacts figured also in the lives of our forefathers. They, too, hunted and raised their own fish and meat and knew the processes of preserving them. The woods were known to them for berries, fruit, herbs and medicinal plants. Homespun and home-dyed fabrics were one of the many arts and crafts of the housewife. Yes, our rural forebears, being dependent upon nature, knew not only its resources but its laws.

The machine, household appliances, highly mechanized and organized life have stepped between us and nature. We are ignorant of its phenomena and laws. Be that as it may, the phenomena and laws still exist. Most of our economic, social and physical ills are results of our having disregarded or sinned against some law of nature. What joy, what inspiration, what spiritual values have been lost as a result! It is within our power as park folk at least to partially atone for these lost practical contacts with nature by substituting in their place educational and recreational nature activities.

To tell in detail how to accomplish this would necessitate a textbook or series of textbooks of no mean volume. In fact, there already exists a steadily growing literature on the subject. The best this report can do is to enumerate activities to promote this aim.

Various Park Areas and Features

Our parks must have areas of different types for different aims.

1. There must be areas and conservatories enjoyed for their horticultural beauty.
2. If possible there should be a zoological garden.
3. There should be play areas.
4. There should by all means be reserved, no matter how small in area, a section in which nature has not been disturbed by man's handwork.
5. While every one of these park sections should have their educational values emphasized, there should be in addition to them what one might term special educational facilities—field houses for meetings, trailside museums, fireside council rings for outdoor day and evening gatherings, observatories for informal star gazing and formal astronomy study.

Every park system has its beauty areas. They were our traditional beginning. Many systems have zoos. It is sincerely hoped that all systems have outgrown the "keep off the grass" stage and made areas available for swimming, play and active picnics.

The peasant homes in Bavaria have a traditional corner in the living room with a simple altar, generally only a shelf on which is a crude crucifix and a candle or two with a holy picture on the wall above them. This corner is known as the "Herr Gott's Ecke" or "God's Corner." Not all our park systems have seen the value of Section 4 of the list suggested—a section which might be likened to the Herr Gott's Ecke of the Bavarian home—a plot sacred to nature. Section 5 is where we are all found wanting. In sections four and five lie the great challenges of our future programs.

Following is a list of suggested possibilities for a practical, popular educational park program:

Nature trails — marked with simple, short, easily legible markers.

Trailside museums — any type, from glass-covered bulletin boards or glass cases out in the open to three-sided shelters with shelves, tables, bulletin boards, and provision for wall specimens. Exhibits should at all times have interesting labels. They should not always be definitely informative, but should occasionally take the form

of questions or suggestions provoking research, thought and discussion.

Lists (in several prominent locations in the park)—of every type of tree and shrub found in the park, each type having its individual number and several fine examples of the same tagged with this respective number. The same should be done with plants and flowers, whether they be cultured or wild. It would be well to prefix the numbers of the plants and flowers with the letter "P," so that they will not be confused with the tree and bush markers.

Special groups — tree associations, Shakespeare gardens, kitchen herb gardens, medicinal and pharmaceutical gardens, gardens of herbs and plants used by the Indians. Again these should be enhanced by interesting, informative labels.

Nature sketching and modelling classes—conducted with the cooperation of the public schools and art schools.

Every park should have its trailside museums with exhibits marked with clear and interesting labels

Evening Activities

Most of our park activities take place during the day time. If we are to reach the greatest possible number of people we must add evening activities to our program. To best fill this need necessitates a field house. Much can be done, however, along the line of talks and lectures in a very intimate and charming way at a camp fire surrounded by a rustic council ring.

This need for evening gatherings might be met by using the bandstands which almost all parks have in various forms, from the traditional covered stand to the more elaborate band shell. The use of these structures has been more or less limited to musical and dramatic events. While this type of park activity scarcely fits into a nature recreation program, it still can be made of decided value for their promotion. There is no reason why these bandstands cannot be used for nature lectures and nature motion pictures.

How many of us use our concert audience for park promotion? To allow a park concert or opera to pass without telling the hundreds of people of the audience something about the park system or interesting seasonal features is to miss a great opportunity. Many of these concert goers have no other interests in the park system's program features because they are not aware of their existence.

Extension Activities

Park Activities should leave the confines of the park and go out to the people instead of depending upon the people coming to them. Invitations for lectures, exhibits and demonstrations, showing of motion pictures of park activities should be sought from schools, churches, clubs, luncheon clubs, civic associations, etc. Such engagements are splendid promotional as well as educational ventures. It pays to keep the citizenry informed and enlightened.

Field Houses

A field house could be the meeting place for children and adults with varied nature interest. Such a house should have a lecture room with a seating capacity for about 150, with motion picture equipment, simple stage, photography developing room, lapidary laboratory. Such a building would serve nature clubs, garden clubs, zoological clubs, astronomy clubs, geology clubs, botany clubs, nature camera groups, lapidary clubs, nature motion picture nights, children's story hour, special nature lectures, musical evenings of nature songs and phonograph records of compositions based on nature themes, evenings with nature poets and authors, either as reading groups or personal appearances.

Such field houses would be greatly enhanced by

a library of nature books and periodicals. The field house should have an exhibit room for seasonal and occasional exhibits gathered and arranged by the various groups meeting at the park.

Publicity Sales Materials

Ink is a good investment. Bulletins, be they a single mimeographed sheet or a commercially printed pamphlet, can greatly promote a park's educational program. The most valuable publications are not those which are simply narrative or descriptive, but are those which serve as guide outlines or research promoters for trips through the park. Visitors and picnickers would enjoy being handed a simple mimeographed slip sending them out on a tree hunt, a flower trail, or treasure hunt. A simple outline map of the park with stars showing the location of interesting features worth seeing, without telling what they are, are bound to arouse curiosity. Labels should give the story. Such mimeographed material should be written in catchy manner to arouse curiosity.

Attractive postcards of park views and features are splendid publicity agents. Paper weights, key rings, charms, etc., of zoo animals are often very welcome to visitors who desire to carry away a rememberance. Small framed pictures of flowers, trees, nature scenes are silent teachers. Such sales material can be made the source of income, but even though there be no financial gain connected with them, the publicity they give the park would be remuneration in itself.

Park History and Interest Spots

The past history of the land comprising the park area or areas should be obtained back as far as possible and made available to the public through leaflets, bulletin boards, or both. Many farms purchased were at one time or another the home of interesting old settlers, were the scene of interesting events — Indian experiences, war events, historic happenings. How many visitors to Chicago's Lincoln Park know that a portion of the park area was once a cemetery on the outskirts of Chicago.

When purchasing farms for park purpose, we unthinkingly raze all buildings on the same, not having in mind that many modern children and even grown-ups have never seen a barn, a corn crib, a mill, a well, a pump or trough. Preservation of these should figure in an educational park program.

The history and background of the name of the park should be ascertained in detail and form a part of the park's educational program. This is especially true if the park is named after an individual. Should there be statues or monuments in the park, they likewise should have their story on record—name of the sculptor or designer, occasion for its erection, financing or donor, materials used and source of the same, biography of individuals involved, or story of the event commemorated.

Zoo Activities

A zoo should be more than a collection of animals interesting to watch especially at feeding time. Again labels have a definite mission. They should tell more than just the name of whatever may happen to be in the respective cages.

Conducted zoo lecture tours at stated hours, special lectures on interesting specimens could be given in the zoo lobby or special lecture room both during the day and at night. There might also be

1. Special performances at stated hours by any trained animals that might be members of the zoo
2. Barnyard zoos for benighted city folks
3. Traveling zoos or barnyards to city playgrounds
4. Zoological societies
5. Children's zoo clubs

Camping

One of our greatest opportunities for promoting nature recreation is presented by facilities for overnight and week-end camping.

This is truly bringing individuals in touch with nature. The starry night, the morning dawn do not feature in the life of the average city boy and girl. Add to a full day and a night of contact with nature the social values of group living, and you have an experience which is difficult to equal through any other medium.

A simple hut with indoor fireplace for inclement weather and winter camping, an outdoor fireplace for cooking, a good water supply, and sanitary toilet facilities are the physical requisites. There should be cots, if possible blankets, dishes and a simple equipment of cooking utensils. Facilities for twenty is the ideal size. Over and above equipment and facilities, stand regulations that groups who are granted permission to use the same always come under reliable adult leadership.

Returned Servicemen

The thousands of young men who are now in the armed forces have had physical training and sports, forming a very vital part of their program. They have learned the values and the joys of these activities, and will have a desire to continue them in one way or another after their return to civilian life. Who can better satisfy this desire than we park people with our play areas, ball fields, links, swimming pools, and game courts of various types. We must provide opportunity for all types of sports and games, from the very strenuous to the less strenuous, according to the desires and interests of the players. Our men as a whole are returning in finer physical condition than they left, and it is up to us to provide for them the opportunities to so keep themselves.

Rehabilitation of Servicemen

There will, on the other hand, be some who will return in a less fortunate physical condition. They will have much leisure time on their hands which can either be invested for joy and physical profit or can become a bore and nervous irritant. What can be a better source of relaxation than a program of nature activities? What can be a better nerve restorative than a park with its fresh air and its beauty, providing the same is manned with friendly and understanding workers, and facilities to occupy their hands and minds.

Retired Citizens

A new group of park constituents is making itself felt more and more, namely, the retired citizens. Labor legislation is increasingly dictating to workers a retirement age, which in many places has already dropped to 60 years, with an even younger age in the offing. We as park people have wonderful opportunities to make the years of retirement years of contentment, joy, and democratizing fellowship. It hardly need be mentioned that the type of activity for this group will needs be of a passive nature, requiring an inviting game and reading room for inclement weather, and an outside gathering place for sunny days. This group will have to be in our thinking when planning grounds and buildings. Stairs must be kept at a minimum, and ramps with easy incline provided.

Conservation

Your committee has a firm conviction that an interesting program of nature recreation activities can be made the source of great leisure time joy. In addition, it will bring with it mental, spiritual, social and civic values. Outstanding among the latter stands the matter of conservation. We preach conservation, we make the teaching of it in our schools obligatory by law in some states.

To conserve means to protect. One is not apt to protect that for which he has no special love. One is not apt to love that which he does not know or understand. To know and to understand nature is bound to result in love and admiration for it. Therefore, our safest promotion of conservation is to bring our boys and girls into close contact with nature at the very earliest age and all through their school and their leisure time life. A by-product of this conservation interest is very apt to be a greater respect for and conservation of park property, something devoutly to be wished.

Your committee realizes that this report contains many what's and why's and few or no how's. As mentioned before, help regarding the latter can readily be obtained through study and reading.

Future Aims

Our hope is that this report will spur us on to greater efforts to so construct our parks and so conduct our programs that we may have to our credit many seeing eyes, listening ears, understanding minds and hearts, individuals more closely in tune with the Infinite because of what our parks have offered in nature recreation activities.

NOTE: This report of the sub-committee on Public Education and Interpretation of the Educational Committee of the American Institute of Park Executives was presented at the convention held in Indianapolis September 25, 1944. The original report was written by Dorothy Enderis, Director of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education, Milwaukee Public Schools. It was then submitted to the other members of the sub-committee who gave their suggestions. The final report is therefore the result of the thinking of the entire committee. Opinion was expressed at the convention that the report constituted a most effective summing up of the desirable educational and interpretative park programs. It was approved by the sub-committee and will receive further study by the Executive Committee of the Institute.

Victory Gardens—1944 Model

Print by Gedge Harmon

By KARL F. JOHNSON
Superintendent of Parks
Oak Park, Illinois

"SPEED THE PLOW across the field. Break the sod and sow the seed." Here's good advice to Victory-Gardeners-with-a-Plan, if it can be followed. And following it was the problem for the 1944 Victory Garden Committee of Oak Park, Illinois.

The Committee had a plan. The plan called for bettering 1943's record of food grown; to get every vacant lot in town sown in vegetables. If the plan was to be successful, people had to get plenty of seed and plants in the ground early in the season. Before the seed and plants could be put in the earth, the land had to be plowed and cultivated. There was the rub!

In 1943, the Victory Garden Committee (composed of members of the Park Board, the local Garden Clubs, the Chamber of Commerce, the local press, the Public Service Company, interested people in the community) had hired a farmer to prepare the available ground for gardeners. But farmers have their own jobs to do and the community victory garden suffered perforce. The Committee, meeting early in the spring of 1944, wracked its collective brain to see what could be done. The Park Board had an old Fordson tractor, but it wouldn't carry a plow so it didn't help matters much. However, the same Board needed a new tractor for its own use and agreed to buy one if WPB would grant the priority. WPB did, and by April a new tractor with plow attached was ready to go to work.

Five hundred and twenty-seven vacant lots, 25′ x 125′, were made ready. On them 1,190 families went to work. What's more they kept at it! All of them did a real job on those strips of land. Nor was that all. In addition to the community gardens there were 3,482 backyard gardens worked by individuals or by families for their own satisfaction and on their own initiative. Each of these individual plots averaged about 15′ x 20′ in size. These figures are no guesswork, either, because each one of those gardens was registered!

Registration of the individual gardens was part of the Committee's plan for the year, but it looked at first like one of those Herculean tasks best left unattempted. Time, after all, was at a premium, and it would take time to get the data necessary for registration. But Yankee ingenuity is still very much alive in these United States, and this was a real community-wide project. Somebody had the bright idea that every home in Oak Park had a water meter which was read periodically. Why couldn't the Water Department readers register the gardens when they read the meters? They could. They did. They did a good, accurate job of it.

Then Came the Festival

By early June the Victory Garden program was in full swing. Early vegetables were coming in and pests were rearing their ugly heads and being conquered by eternal vigilance. The Committee began to make plans for a Victory Garden Fall Festival. The Festival's dates were set for September 8 and 9. The place for its holding was to be one of the school gymnasiums. Gardeners were urged to grow one or two exhibition vegetables. Flowers, too, were placed on the exhibition list—both specimen blooms and arrangements. Ribbon awards (blue, red, yellow, white) would be made. There would be a Junior Exhibit in which individuals or youth groups could exhibit and receive awards.

(Continued on page 666)

Herbert Lee Pratt

On February 4, 1945 the National Recreation Association and the whole recreation movement lost a good friend in the death of Herbert Lee Pratt.

In the early days of the Association Mr. Pratt was one of the nationally known business leaders who believed in and helped to finance the National Recreation Association. Herbert Pratt was a generous contributor for thirty-five years. He not only gave generously himself, but took delight in enlisting the interest of his friends. As the Association's sponsor in New York City for a number of years, he greatly enlarged the Association's support.

As President and later Chairman of the Board of the Standard Oil Company in New York, Mr. Pratt's statements in behalf of recreation carried great weight. On one occasion Mr. Pratt wrote: "One has but to drive through our cities and countryside to see the wonderful development of parks and playgrounds which have been laid out during the past three years. . . . I repeat again that I believe much, if not all, of the incentive which brought about those developments, was furnished by the Playground and Recreation Association, which was followed by the National Recreation Association. . . ."

Some years later after Mr. Pratt had retired from active leadership in business, he signed the following statement in answer to a question that had been asked him as to the relative importance of teaching young people to work:

> "The question has been raised as to whether the increasing number of recreation facilities are desirable. One man asked me recently whether we should not emphasize more strongly teaching young people to work rather than giving so much time to recreation. I replied to this man, that although I go around New York and other cities and see more parks and playgrounds than I do factories, and although we may think we do not like it, yet we have got to remember that recreation is here to stay. We are living in a new order. Life is not all work: neither is recreation unimportant. The fact is, recreation is going to have an increasingly important place. What we need to remember is that sound play habits are just as important for living as sound work habits. I think we ought to realize that sound work habits can be taught along with sound play habits. Our young men and women should be giving thought and time to the problem of how to utilize parks and playgrounds and other recreation facilities to make better citizens."

Herbert L. Pratt was also deeply interested in education, especially physical education, serving on the Board of Springfield College and Amherst. He and Joseph Lee worked together in securing funds for Springfield College. He believed deeply in the contribution to physical education research which Dr. James H. McCurdy of Springfield College and also the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association were carrying on.

Herbert Pratt believed himself in obtaining a full measure of joy out of life. He was deeply interested in the outdoors—in hunting, fishing, gardening, and yachting. Among his other interests were the Young Men's Christian Association, the American Wild Life Association and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Herbert Pratt was always ready to discuss with staff members of the Association the problems of the recreation movement. He was especially interested and urged that younger men and women be found to give leadership to take the place of some of the outstanding leaders who had helped in the beginning. He took particular delight in reports of younger members of the Pratt family who were becoming interested in recreation.

The recreation movement is richer because of the life of Herbert L. Pratt.

The Elementary School Science Room

By RUTH A. HUBBARD
Elementary Science Supervisor
Cleveland Heights, Ohio, Public Schools

Recreation departments today are encouraging the making of nature collections by children of the playground, and aquaria and terrariums, as well as collections of rocks, leaves, and flowers gathered on hikes into the country are to be found at many a city play center.

There are many suggestions in this article which will be applicable to the playground nature activities program.

WHEN VISITING day arrives and Johnny and Susie bring mother and daddy to inspect their school, they are eager to point out the things that interest them most. If there is a functioning science room it will in all probability be the first part of the building visited. Every parent must meet Winkie, the rabbit, and Hoppity, the toad, must try to guess the bird riddles of the fourth grade and must admire the sixth grade's insect collection. The adults find the room as interesting a place as do the children.

The Purpose of the Science Room

A science room may serve many purposes. All of the science teaching may be done here, or it may be a place for exhibits and special demonstrations only. But if the room is also a laboratory and workshop it will be much more interesting and helpful. One very practical use of the science room is that of storage place and distribution center for science materials of all kinds. This requires plenty of cupboard space and someone to be responsible for organizing the supplies. A committee of older children can perform this service, with supervision. As many of these materials will have been assembled or made by the children, the idea of sharing them with the whole school and when valuable enough adding them to the school's permanent collection, becomes an incentive to individual classes to make finer collections and more finished projects.

Many classrooms are too crowded to afford space for any living materials and since it is inconceivable that biological science be taught without having living things to observe, another function of the science room is to provide comfortable quarters for living specimens.

Planning the Science Room

The primary requisite for a science room is that it be sunny. Substitutions can be found for almost every other desirable feature except sunshine. Another necessary feature is that it have ample space for exhibition tables and work tables as well as for a class of students. A demonstration desk with running water and with gas and electrical connections is very useful. Built-in lighted exhibition cases with storage cupboards beneath are excellent. Large bulletin boards or an entire wall faced with a composition board suitable for thumb-tacking will be found practical. Wide window ledges to hold plants, or, better yet, a bay of windows closed off to make a small conservatory provide for attractive displays. A large tank with running water for an aquarium is another very desirable built-in feature. A library corner for science books and a picture file that the children could assist in filling will help to make the arrangements complete.

From *School Nature League Bulletin,* "The Elementary School Science Room," by Ruth A. Hubbard. Published by National Audubon Society, New York, N. Y. Reprinted by permission.

Science Room Materials and Activities

Plants. Plants add much to the beauty and interest of any room. In a south window the following plants will grow and bloom with a minimum of care: varieties of begonias and geraniums, coleus, cactus, oxalis, house iris, African violet, cyclamen and narcissus. In north windows plants will not bloom but many may be grown there for greenness: varieties of ivy, peperomia and philodendron, coleus, ferns and sedums.

Children should have the opportunity of starting plants by various methods: growing morning glories from seeds; begonias and geraniums from slips; African violets from leaf cuttings. They will also enjoy growing paper white narcissus from bulbs in water, and daffodils that must be potted and buried outdoors for two or more months before being forced indoors.

In order to see the whole process of germination and root growth as well as that of the stem and the leaves, seeds can be planted in a straight-

sided glass jar. A cylinder of blotting paper lining the glass and filled with moist sand or peat moss holds the seeds visible against the glass. A visual method of teaching the requirements of a growing plant is to start a number of the same kind of plants of uniform size and grow them under varying conditions of soil, moisture, and light, and compare results.

Aquaria. An aquarium offers one of the easiest ways of keeping animals. Once properly balanced it requires very little attention. Most teachers know the technique of setting up an aquarium but how many utilize the wealth of teaching material with which it abounds? With the animals supplying the carbon dioxide used by the water plants in their food-making process which in turn liberates the oxygen needed by the animals, the aquarium is a perfect illustration of the carbon oxygen cycle. By introducing animals that prey upon each other, the smallest becoming food for the next larger and these becoming food for the still larger animals, numerous links in a food chain may be observed. The adaptation of the plants and animals to life in the water is another fascinating subject presented.

Goldfish are colorful inhabitants of an aquarium and they are hardy, but for variety's sake, our native pond fish such as the blue gills, sunfish and catfish should be used. Fish hatcheries sometimes may be obtained from the state conservation department to enable one to make his own collection. Native fish thrive better if a diet of commercial dried food is varied with chopped beef, small pieces of earthworms or milkworms.

Water insects of all kinds, backswimmers, water boatmen, diving beetles, dragonfly nymphs, water scorpions and many more, are fascinating inhabitants of an aquarium because of the variety of ways in which they are adapted to life in the water. They will not live together long, however, for they eat each other and in a short time only one or two of the larger varieties (larger links in the food chain) will be left.

Guppies are hardy tropical fish that are interesting to rear in the science room because they bear their young alive. By using an aquarium heater, less hardy, but extremely interesting fish can be raised. A home-made heater is easily constructed by suspending an olive jar, weighted with sand, in one corner of the tank, with the mouth of the bottle above water level. An electric light bulb of sufficient wattage to maintain a temperature of 80° F. is hung in a bottle with its cord passing through a hole in the metal cover. A tropical fish hobbyist or a good reference book should be consulted on the idiosyncrasies of the fish

School children see with their eyes and hear with their ears the things they have read about in their textbooks

Courtesy National Audubon Society

chosen. Success is not always attained at first, but all the time and effort expended are well repaid if young Paradise or Siamese fighting fish are finally reared in their bubble nest.

A doctor's degree in aquatics should be presented to the teacher who establishes a marine aquarium in an *inland* science room for there are many hazards to be overcome. Several biological supply houses will ship ocean water and a collection of hardy sea invertebrates during the winter months with directions for their care. However it is essential that the weather cooperate and remain cold during the period of shipment and that everything is ready at the school to establish a home for these ocean guests as speedily as possible upon their arrival. Means must be found for maintaining the salt water aquarium at 60° F. and for providing adequate aeration. An air pump is the surest method although if an abundant supply of sea lettuce accompanies the shipment and the light is sufficient, the lettuce will thrive and liberate a good supply of oxygen. Feeding is the least of the problems involved for most of the animals will eat oysters. But happy are the ingenious teacher and class who successfully meet these difficulties, for the starfish will walk about on their tube feet, the sea anemone will open and close its tentacles, and the hermit crab will travel about in its shell house for several exciting and profitable weeks.

Terrariums. Terrariums are equally as valuable as aquariums for the variety of plant and animal life they can accommodate. The simplest way to make a terrarium is to stick panes of glass together with adhesive tape to form the sides and top of a box which may be set in a shallow pan as base. A more rigid and therefore more serviceable type has a wooden frame and floor. If this floor is covered by a shallow galvanized pan the terrarium is then adaptable for every purpose short of becoming an aquarium.

Terrariums may serve as small greenhouses for propagating plants. They may be set up in miniature to represent many habitats: desert, field, woods, marsh, and shallow pond. Educationally the terrarium is a failure if the plants are not kept true to one environment. If a small animal is added, children will watch the terrarium with an unending interest. Many small amphibians and reptiles are suitable for these habitations. Horned toads and snakes are at home in the desert. Although snakes are found in other than desert situations, in captivity they do best in desert situations. However, water for drinking should be provided. Frogs and toads live in a moist field or woodland habitat. The red eft belongs in the marsh. Small turtles or salamanders will enliven a habitat that contains a pool and a shore line. A list of food for these animals should include: earthworms for snakes, toads, frogs, salamanders, and turtles; mealworms for the horned toads, toads and frogs; fruit flies for the small tree frogs; ground meat for the turtle and, if wiggled on the end of a broom straw, for the frogs, toads, and salamanders.

In setting up a terrarium, adequate drainage must be provided by a bottom layer of coarse sand and gravel. A layer of charcoal on top helps absorb odors arising from decaying organic matter. The soil should be the type suited to the plants that are to be grown in it: for example—potting soil for house plants, rich leaf mold for woodland plants and an acid soil for those of the marsh. If possible when collecting the plants in the field, sufficient soil for the terrarium should also be taken.

Insects. Fall is the time when insects are prominent and many insects may be kept alive and observed for several weeks. It is quite possible to have many living varieties at one time: a cricket serenading his dusky mate, a praying mantis stalking a grasshopper, a doodle bug waiting patiently at the bottom of its sand trap for an unwary ant, a ladybird beetle feasting on aphids, a cecropia caterpillar spinning its bag-like cocoon.

Terrariums, preferably with wire screen replacing their glass covers to avoid excessive moisture, make satisfactory cages for insects. A temporary cage that children enjoy making is constructed of wire screening. A cylinder of screen of the proper circumference is held together with brass paper fasteners and set in a tin jar lid. A thin layer of plaster of Paris poured over the bottom of the lid will hold the screen in place while a second lid furnishes the cover.

If one is fortunate enough to have the services of a good carpenter, an observation bee-hive or ant colony is easily built. Biological supply houses will furnish the occupants and directions for their care. Either one will open a great field of fascinating study.

Mammals. Mammals are of never failing interest to youngsters and there are many kinds that are easily cared for in the classroom. For those contemplating keeping live mammals in the science room, however, it is well to consider that this group requires daily care, even over week-ends.

(Continued on page 669)

Beware! It's Spring

Print by Gedge Harmon

By CARROLL ABBOTT
Los Angeles, California

If you think it's Spring showers we're warning you about you're mistaken. It's Spring flowers!

FEW MOTORISTS would consider it an act of vandalism to waste the gay spring flowers that carpet our roadsides by wantonly picking them. Nevertheless, that is exactly what it is; pure vandalism in its strictest sense.

For the bright wildflowers that rim our highways are but precious jewels in a huge museum that is draped with such signs: "Danger: Nature at Work — Do Not Ruthlessly Destroy." Dame Nature is the curator of this beautiful museum. Her sole duty is to supply the countryside with brilliant patches of color to delight the eyes of the passing throngs. Her power does not extend to a strong hand that would keep clutching fingers from her prize subjects. That is up to *you*.

Our nation is world-famous for its magnitude of dazzling wildflowers that unroll in colorful pageantry beside its highways. But the uneducated motorists-tourists are rapidly extinguishing the bright flower-flame of native glory by unknowingly picking too many wildflowers.

Moderation the Rule

Conservation experts do not expect you to exercise strict temperance in gathering wildflowers. Rather, they hammer home the fact of moderation. Following are a few pertinent rules concerning the picking of wildflowers. Adhered to faithfully, our roadsides and hills will retain their breath-stealing splendor.

1. Never pick a wildflower bouquet unless there are a hundred flowers just like the one you pick, in the very same vicinity, to replace it.

This is merely insurance for next season's bloom. If you leave enough of the others, then you may enjoy the same spectacle of wildflowers next spring.

2. Never pick more wildflowers than you can use.

The most disgusting sight of spring is to see a motorist arrive home laden with a wilted mass of once-lovely natives destined to be junked for the garbage. Take adequate precautions to assure the freshness of your wildflower bouquets. If you know where wildflowers abound, and are careful in your choice of numbers, go prepared. A pail of fresh water or a cool, moist burlap bag to wrap around the stems, will aid the natives in getting over their travel-shock. For goodness sakes don't ride them outside on the fender, turning them both to the broiling rays of the sun and the inner heat of the car engine!

3. Never pick a flower that is new to you when it is alone.

When you spy a special beauty that you don't know the rarity of and it is all alone in its glory, guard yourself from destroying the chances of it getting established in a new territory. Let it alone, enjoy it next season, and before long there will be a sufficient supply for you to take home.

4. Never pull the roots of a native or cut the stem too close to the ground.

The roots are the plant's storehouse that add up energy for later blossoms and the flower show next spring. When you cut a flower, you momentarily halt the brightness of the plant. But if you pull up the roots and allow them to bake in the sun, you clip short the future of any more flowers. Leave a goodly portion of the stalk and help the plant bounce back into bloom right away.

5. Do not attempt to transplant these natives to your own garden.

Unless you are an extra-average gardener with loads of experience in taming these wildings, this is a "must." In adjusting the native to its home,

you must supply all the little items that made it happy in its former home. Rainfall, amount of sunshine, type of soil, and other essentials are not easy make-to-order requirements. Leave this operation to the more skilled botanists of colleges and nurseries. If you want to see the pert, spring sunshiners in your garden, buy the seed from a nursery that specializes in native flower seed. In this method, you adapt the natives to your garden environment more quickly and much less fatally.

6. Try preserving wildflowers with camera and drawing board.

Few subjects are more admirably suited for camera or sketching models than wildflowers. They possess a unique charm all their own, a grace unsurpassed, and colors and arrangements that challenge the artist and photographer. There are no open or closed seasons on these natives; you can "shoot" all day, every day, without fear of exceeding your limit. You have your choice of a million applicants. Their patience is unexcelled and they will pose for hours. Yet a newer change is unfolded every few feet, and each day new blossoms open to bring added thrills.

7. Learn to press and mount wildflowers.

An old-fashioned hobby that is as fascinating as a smart baby. In yesteryear, the first flower of spring was crushed between two sheets of newspaper under the heavy weight of the family Bible. In the scorching rays of summer and the changing colors of autumn, the pressed flowers recalled spring picnics, festivals, and other worthwhile remembrances. This pastime preserves the native flowers in form and color, ever-ready at a moment's notice to summon pleasant trips and beautiful sights of spring.

A simple lesson in botany relating to the life process of wildflowers would clear up many mistaken suppositions.

Facts to Remember

All wildflowers rely on seeds to reproduce their brilliant wares of spring. This is the most important axiom to remember. For though the plant be an annual (living but one year) or a perennial (surviving for several seasons), the fact still remains vital. When you pluck the blossoms of a beautiful native, you immediately destroy a certain small portion of next year's blooms. How great a chaos you create for the following spring depends on how many seed-producing blossoms you wreck this season.

If a plant is a perennial, it has a chance next year. But most perennials do not have the happy habit of producing the huge amount of seed like annuals, and in the course of a few years run their allotted course and die. If too many of their flowers are picked or if they are yanked up by their roots, their chances of reproducing are lost.

Beware! It's spring when the country is fragrant and flashy with wildflowers and temptation mounts high. But this spring think . . . of next season, of your fellow motorists, and principally, of the wildflower glory that you might wreck.

Wildflower names are story names, telling in advance what to expect. The *anemone* is, in truth, windflower, graceful and light as the first southwest breeze that sets the fragile stem vibrating, the delicate flower head dancing on the hillsides. *Bloodroot* has many other names—turmeric, Indian paint, redroot. The red dye in stem and root lives up to the plant's aliases but none of them suggest the sheer joy of a first glimpse of the waxy white flower budded in a cup or opened wide into a star. *Bluet,* from the French *bleuet,* diminutive of *bleu,* is another springcomer with many names. These plants are commonly known as Quaker Ladies or Innocence wherever a myriad small plants grow close to carpet—so 'tis said—land too poor to nourish robuster feeders.

"Wildflowers add so much to the beauty of a landscape that they have become a public trust and it is easy to understand why widespread efforts are being made to conserve them. Many states protect them by law, inflicting the same punishment on those who break branches and pick flowers as on those who kill quail or catch bass out of season. Such laws are no hindrance to the enjoyment of flowers, for the pleasure of seeing them is much greater than that of picking them.

"Learning to recognize wildflowers is neither harder nor easier than learning to recognize people. Some plants, like some people, are so unusual in appearance that those who once see them can never forget them nor confuse them with any other. There are many, however, whose names may be learned today and forgotten tomorrow unless we employ other senses as well as sight in learning to know them.

"Whether you grow them in your own backyard or seek them out in the woodlands, wildflowers are a part of your heritage of beauty that it is worthwhile to claim."—*Maud R. Jacobs in An Introduction to Wildflowers.*

What They Say About Nature Recreation

"FOR IF DELIGHT can provoke men's labor, what greater delight is there than to behold the earth apparelled with plants?"—*Gerrard's Herball.*

"Though I suppose it may be of no avail, I yet shout: 'Ho, come to the Sierra forests; the king is waiting for you—King Sequoia.' "—*John Muir.*

"Why not walking; walking as a fine art? Nature flowers best and fullest through walking. It is the open sesame to all outdoors."—*Raymond Tifft Fuller* in *Now That We Have to Walk.*

"I consider that gardening for boys and girls represents one of the subjects in education which is of lasting interest and of considerable value in their everyday life."—*Robert Moses.*

"The administrator of public lands has a double responsibility: to keep some wilderness in existence, and to cultivate its qualitative enjoyment."—*Aldo Leopold* in *Wilderness Values.*

"It is as much a patriotic duty to save our native wild flowers as it is to collect and preserve any early Americana. The native plants were established here before our country was known."—*The Garden Club of America.*

"As a nation we are growing up—we are becoming more mature in our consideration of our resources. We now see more of the interdependency and interconnections in the use of our resources."—*Claude R. Wickard.*

"The forests of America, however slighted by man, must have been a great delight to God, for they were the best he ever planted. The whole continent was a garden, and from the beginning it seemed to be favored above all the other wild parks and gardens of the globe."—*John Muir.*

"The beauty of a virgin forest or of a mountain lake or meadow; the setting from which great manifestations of nature's forces are viewed—these are fragile things."—*Newton B. Drury.*

"The teaching of Nature we call play, but it is not easy and it is not secondary; its chief courses are in exploration and experiment, in creation, art and music, in love and nurture, in war and hunting, and in team play. It sows the arts of war and peace, and aims at those ends that men will die for and in pursuit of which all human genius is expressed."—*Joseph Lee.*

"How few find time to stop and enter the friendly woodlands so near at hand, or stroll along the grassy bank and 'pore upon the brook that babbles by.' "—*William A. Babson* in *Modern Wilderness.*

"In conquering the soil man developed the race. The conquest of the land measures the breadth of civilization. Agriculture is the age-old occupation of mankind."—*Van Evrie Kilpatrick.*

"In the great religious literature of the world (the *Bible* and the *Koran*) water is called 'a blessing' and paradise has been referred to as 'a place where water is abundant.' "—*Robert H. Brown* in *Our Natural Resources and Their Conservation.*

"Here's a queer thing: I have often helped Nature do what she wanted to do so that she made a better job than she could have done alone; but I have never been able to make her do anything she didn't want to do!"—*M. G. Kains* in *Gardening for Young People.*

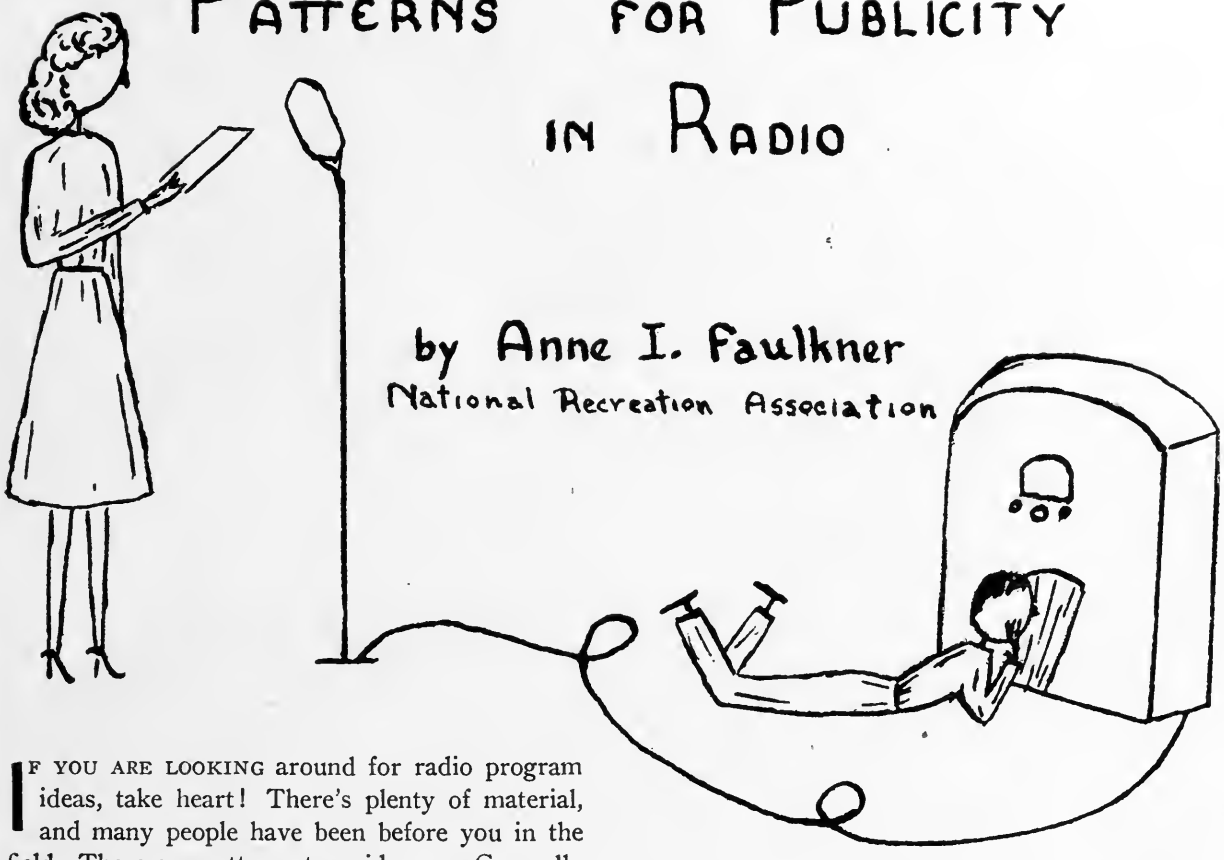
" 'Tis always morning somewhere, and above
The awakening continents, from shore to shore,
Somewhere the birds are singing evermore."
—From *Birds of Killingsworth* by *Longfellow.*

"Once in a while man must touch solid rock, see the sun rise, and wonder at the stars. He should let the rain beat on his face, feel the power of the storm-wind on his back, hear the crash of a lightning-struck tree thundering to earth, and know the impersonality of things primitive."—*Paul U. Brown.*

"No tree in all the grove but has its charms. And each its charm peculiar."—*William Cowper.*

Patterns for Publicity in Radio

by Anne I. Faulkner
National Recreation Association



If you are looking around for radio program ideas, take heart! There's plenty of material, and many people have been before you in the field. There are patterns to guide you. Generally speaking, you won't be able to use material from other communities, but you can adapt ideas from other places to your own needs and you can, with a little pondering, dream up new ideas of your own. The following suggestions from communities with successful radio programs may set the bells on your thinking cap a-jingling.

Means to an End

It is probably safe to assume that the main purpose of a broadcast on recreation or by a recreation department will be to win friends and influence people. There are, in general, two ways to achieve this. You can make people aware of your program by telling them, on the air, all about it—its why, its how, its where and when and who. Or you can make them aware of your program by using radio to give them something, by a service of some kind to the adults or to the children of the community. Both kinds of programs are going over the air from recreation departments. Both kinds have value. Which is better for your community is a thing you will have to decide for yourself after due consideration of all the factors that must enter into such a decision. Some city recreation departments have programs of both kinds.

Some of the programs now being used successfully are described here. If you think one of them could be adapted to your community, or if you get an idea about a new kind of air show, be sure of one thing. Make certain that whatever you do is *good*. Your standards of radio production cannot be too high. And, before you embark on a project, be sure you know whether your station has the facilities necessary to make your program good.

Programs of Information

Informational programs are usually cast in the form of news bulletins. They are factual, or largely factual, and "advertise" the department and its work directly. Here are a few variants aired in 1944.

Chicago, Illinois. (Population 4,499,126[1]) Saturday afternoons from 1:45 to 2:00 find many listeners in the Chicago area dialed to WBBM and G.I. Joe Remembers. This is a series of dramatizations based on letters

This is the second of a series of articles on the use of radio by recreation departments. The first, *Going on the Air?*, appeared in the December 1944 issue of Recreation.

1. All population figures are from the 1940 census.

from servicemen overseas. Each program in the series deals with the things some member of the armed forces delights to remember about Chicago's parks and the things he is looking forward to there when peace shall bring him home again. For the first broadcast "Joe" remembered square dancing. A group of dancers currently enjoying this phase of the park's program were on hand to give a demonstration of calls and music.

Los Angeles, California. (Population 1,504,277) In addition to a weekly program which is described later, the Department of Playgrounds and Recreation participates now and then on KFI in a series called THIS IS MY COUNTRY. THIS IS MY COUNTRY uses imaginative stories based on fact and cast in dramatic form to tell of the work being done by many civic groups in the community. Now and again some phase of the Recreation Department's work makes the story for the week. Parenthetically, this is a good kind of "spot" for a single broadcast if you can get it, since the series is well established and so a ready-made listening audience is assured in advance.[2]

Kinston, North Carolina. (Population 15,388) The Director of Recreation of Kinston spends fifteen minutes a week broadcasting recreation news bulletins and interviewing children on their experiences at playgrounds and recreation centers.

Tucson, Arizona (Population 36,818) Tucson had at one time, 1944, three recreation department programs on the air. One of them filled fifteen minutes with news about recreation on both the local and the national interest levels.

Binghamton, New York. (Population 145,156) The supervisor of social recreation for the Municipal Recreation Commission goes on the air each Tuesday at 4:30 P. M. with a program of news items and children's songs called PLAY'S THE THING. The main purpose of the program, according to its author, is to tell the people of Binghamton and its environs about recreation in the county. Suggestions are given for home play, for play out of doors, for play indoors in those long, winter evenings, for making play apparatus, and for winter sports activities. On each broadcast announcements are made for four other community agencies selected from such organizations as churches, museums, public libraries, Girl and Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs. The announcements are interspersed with recordings of children's songs. The program has been on the air since September 26th, and the reaction to it has been so enthusiastic that the Municipal Recreation Commission hopes to keep it going throughout the winter and to double the time allotted to it during the summer months.[3]

REMEMBER!

The type of radio program you choose depends upon the time, the talent, the technical facilities at your disposal. What you have to work with, and the limitations under which you work, must determine the kind of program you put on.

Set and keep your standards high; keep your audience and your purpose in mind, and, whatever the program, make it *good!*

Service Programs

Service programs are less obviously and directly aimed to disseminate information about the recreation program in the community. Their publicity value is excellent, however, because, broadcast in the name of the recreation commission or department, they build up public good will toward knowledge of, and appreciation for the work that is being done.

Raleigh, North Carolina. (Population 46,897) The Recreation Department provides two very different service-type programs for Raleigh. In August, when the polio epidemic kept children away from playgrounds and pools, the Department of Parks and Recreation started a childen's theater of the air. From August until the middle of November, dramatizations of fairy stories were given on the air three times each week. These programs were under the direction of a member of the staff who was also instructor of dramatics at a near-by college. Beginning November 13th, the separate fairy stories were replaced by a serial *Ramkuni and the Flaming Sword* with setting in India.

Raleigh's second program was co-sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation and station WRAL, and was a daily feature. Sixty-four boys under sixteen registered to be auditioned for the job of junior sports announcer. The duties of the announcer were to give the schedule and results of softball games, report on activities at the playgrounds, and announce special events.

Chicago, Illinois. (Population 4,449,126) PARK PLAYHOUSE is on the air over WGN at 8:30 P. M. It is a highly developed program in dramatic form professionally constructed from script writing to

2. A copy of one of the recreation broadcasts on THIS IS MY COUNTRY is available from the National Recreation Association at a cost of $.35 (MP 358).

3. Barbara Morrissey, Supervisor of Social Recreation for the Municipal Recreation Commission of Binghamton and author of the program will be glad to answer questions about her broadcasts.

plans for promoting a listening audience. Its purpose is to dramatize recreation through interesting and telling scripts about the lives of such people as Betty Robinson, who overcame the handicap of a knee broken in her college days and made the Olympic team. The programs were initiated by the Chicago Park District, and the Motor Coach Company which is financing the series. The Director of Recreation feels that the "park message in this series will go out to a listening public we have never been able to speak to before."

Los Angeles, California. (Population 1,504,277) THE AMERICAN STORYBOOK is sponsored by the Department of Playground and Recreation. It is written and narrated by a recreation director of the department who has had years of experience in handling story material for children. AMERICAN STORYBOOK is presented weekly at 10:30 Saturday morning and lasts for fifteen minutes. Generally speaking, the stories are narrated by one person. Occasionally, however, it is varied by the introduction of bits of dramatization, by the use of two or three voices other than the narrator in the conversational interludes of the story. The tales are woven about incidents in the lives of men and women who have contributed to the building of America, some of them very famous, others less well known. A minute of each broadcast period is reserved at the end of the program for announcements which the department wants the public to hear.

One of the significant features of this Los Angeles series is the promotion plan that has been worked out and the tie-up with the schools, not only in Los Angeles but in much of the region covered by station KMTR. The Weekly Bulletin of the department carries a reminder of the series and it is given further publicity through news releases to community newspapers and other publications. The audio-visual divisions of the schools are doing an in-school promotion job, and all teachers in Los Angeles city and county know about the program. It has been suggested to all teachers that they use the stories as materials supplementary to their classroom teaching. Students are asked to listen in and report on each program in class.[4]

The director of public relations for the department has the following comment on the genesis of the AMERICAN STORYBOOK:

> The Recreation Department of Los Angeles has been using radio for the last fifteen years. Our earlier broadcasts were almost entirely musical, presenting such amateur groups as boys' bands, harmonica groups, young people's choruses, etc. When wartime conditions caused a reduction in the number of well qualified choral groups and others whom we could present on the air, we switched over to the present story broadcast series and found it was in many respects the best type of program of all. Because it is recreational as well as educational, it lends itself well to presentation by a Recreation Department. The parents and others approve of the broadcast as a contrast to the usual run of commercially-sponsored children's programs, which generally are over-stimulating to young listeners.

Louisville, Kentucky. (Population 434,408) Louisville's radio story hour was another program that came out of necessity. When the polio epidemic forced many youngsters to stay away from playgrounds and other places where children are wont to congregate, the Recreation Department planned to transfer their storytelling hour to the radio, thus contributing to the entertainment of house or yard-bound boys and girls. This is a radio success story, because the sustaining program was so popular that it quickly found a commercial sponsor who has taken over all expenses of the production.

Tucson, Arizona. (Population 36,818) A group of amateur players has been developed under the aegis of recreation leaders in Tucson. This group presents each week a popular modern play which has been rewritten for radio.

San Francisco, California. (Population 634,536) Each Sunday at 12:30 P. M., four teen-age youngsters take part in the Youth Forum over KFRC. Each of the boys and girls does his own research and expresses his own views on a subject of current interest which has been assigned by the forum's moderator several days in advance. No scripts appear at these broadcasts though notes may be used.

Warning!

If you in Podunk, U.S.A., want to try radio as a means of publicity, the programs cited above will give you some idea of the breadth of the field, the number of types of programs from which you may choose. Of course, in radio as elsewhere, the proof of the pudding will always lie in the eating. The type of program you choose must depend upon the time, the talent, the technical facilities at your dis-

(Continued on page 670)

4. A valuable tie-up between schools and recreation department has been successfully worked out in Omaha in connection with the program WE MARCH WITH FAITH. This program is planned and produced by the schools to publicize the less known, more specialized fields of education, among them recreation.

Wisconsin's Ranger Mac

By PHIL DROTNING

AN AROUSED farmer stormed into a small, backwoods schoolhouse in northern Wisconsin and demanded of the teacher:

"What have you been doing to my son?"

The astounded schoolmarm, who couldn't recall birching the visitor's child, or committing any similar atrocity, stammered out a request for further information.

"My boy and I," the father explained, "have gone hunting every weekend the year around since he learned how to walk, but last Saturday, when I asked him if he wanted to go for a tramp and do some shooting, he refused.

"He said, 'Ranger Mac says you aren't playing fair.' Who is this Ranger Mac guy, anyway?"

The teacher told the irate father about Ranger Mac, a nature enthusiast who objects to hunting out-of-season, but he could have obtained the same information from any one of hundreds of thousands of school children in Wisconsin and nearby states.

In real life Ranger Mac is jovial, 60-year-old Wakelin McNeel, a heavy-set ex-forester with a ruddy complexion and sandy-gray hair, who was promoted to state leader of 4-H clubs in Wisconsin because he "liked kids." Eleven years ago he went on the air over University of Wisconsin Radio Station WHA, at Madison, to stimulate interest in nature subjects among the school children of the state. Since that time he has greeted his youthful "trail-hitters" every Monday morning during the school year.

The *Afield with Ranger Mac* broadcasts over WHA — oldest of the nation's existing broadcasting stations—are heard annually by 40,000 pupils in hundreds of state graded schools, as part of the *Wisconsin School of the Air* curriculum. Although he won the George Foster Peabody award for the best educational radio program in 1942, Mac has shattered every rule of broadcasting technique. His flagrant disregard for all accepted radio standards at first created turmoil among WHA staff members, but the unprecedented success of his program has quieted that ruckus.

H. B. McCarty, director of WHA, admits that he was appalled the first time he heard Mac broadcast, particularly because of the recurrent, booming emphasis placed on each succeeding point. Mac thunders out his ideas while the needle on the engineer's control mechanism surges back and forth as blast after blast rocks the mike.

Each of Mac's broadcasts is a simple, homespun discussion of nature. His associates feel that his outstanding success is due to development of a new approach to conservation problems, but if you asked Mac, he wouldn't even realize that he had a new approach. Unlike most conservationists, who preach the necessity for saving forests and wild life by painting grim pictures of a world without trees, deer, or ducks, Mac teaches the children to love and appreciate the beauties of nature and to *want* to preserve them. Actually, he doesn't *teach* anything, but his own nature love is so great that it somehow is transmitted to his listeners. His ability is something indefinable. He succeeds because of his energy, enthusiasm, honesty and true love for children. The kids feel it, and they respond.

As an individual, Mac is hopelessly modest, and biographical information about the man is scanty. Ask one of his friends to tell you a bit about Ranger Mac, and he'll reply: "Oh, Mac's a great guy. Wonderful teacher. The kids are crazy about him. Do I know any stories about him? Well, let's see. No, offhand, I can't say I do."

Print by Gedge Harmon

Typical example of Mac's modesty is his persistent refusal to use the personal pronoun in his broadcasts. In his ten years of radio work, no one remembers his ever saying "I" did anything. It's always "Ranger Mac took a hike," or, "Ranger Mac saw a baby squirrel." Production

men at WHA have pleaded with Mac to refer to himself as "I," reasoning that his references to Ranger Mac as another person will confuse the listeners. But Mac remains strictly impersonal, with no complaints from his radio audience.

McNeel discusses nature subjects of all types, but because of his early training in forestry, which even took him to the Black Forest of Germany, he devotes much of his time to trees. An excellent indication of his influence is the Wisconsin school forest program which he has developed, promoted, and managed. Mac borrowed the idea from Australia, where children were planting trees in tracts of land near their schools. It looked to him like a good way to begin the restoration of thousands of acres of cutover timber land which devastate northern Wisconsin.

Under the ex-forester's brilliant leadership, school children have planted more than 7,000,000 trees in 214 school forest plots which comprise nearly 12,000 acres of the cutover. They have made a substantial contribution to the timber resources of America and have gained priceless knowledge as they worked. School forests, usually acquired by the school board through donation or tax delinquency, are constantly increasing in number, and the plantings have grown from a few thousand seedlings a year to nearly one and one-half million in 1942. An even greater number was planted in 1943, but a final tabulation has not yet been made.

And yet, the school forest plantings represent only a part of the conservation work which Mac has stimulated. Many additional seedlings have been planted by children's clubs and by individual children on their own farm wood lots. These latter plantings please their godfather most, for they justify his firm belief that the way to preserve the one-third of Wisconsin's timber which grows in farm wood lots is to educate the children, and gradually through them, their parents.

"I don't believe that the planting of a few million trees, however important that may be, is the most significant point in the school forest program," Mac says. "The training the children get now, which will carry over into adulthood, is what counts. They are learning to build up their own heritage, and that of the nation.

"A tree planter is a tree protector," Mac believes. "Through participation the children learn to love trees, and as future owners of the land on which they live, they will be interested in maintaining wood lots and preserving timber stands."

Mac does his "bookkeeping" at a battered, roll-top desk in Agricultural Hall on the Wisconsin University campus. The office is cluttered with twigs, cocoons, and other evidences of his naturalistic inclinations. The naturalist's heavy mail bag indicates the interest, both juvenile and adult, which is shown in his programs. A typical day's mail contained more than 250 inquiries ranging from "how to tell when a dog is sick," to "how can we stop the bluejays from raiding other birds' nests?" Children turn to him for every kind of advice. A typical sample:

> Dear Ranger Mac:
>
> Another boy and I got into an argument in class one morning. He said that the porcupine could shoot his quills. But I said that was just a saying. So the teacher told us to write to you. So we did to settle the argument. So will you please write me a letter telling whether the porcupine shoots his quills or not?
>
> One of your trail-hitters,
>
> JOHN JONES

Mac replied that personal contact will be necessary before the boys ever feel the sting of a porcupine quill, and included a lot of incidental facts about the animals.

"They're all nice kids," he says. "I really feel that I am missing a great opportunity by not giving more time to each of them. I should answer their letters more carefully. I try to frame my programs so they won't invite too much mail, because I just can't take care of it. Last year I had a program called *What is Your Favorite Tree?* Result? I had 1,500 letters to answer."

Once, in his early years of broadcasting when he wasn't too hopelessly swamped with mail, Mac offered a prize to the first listener who sent in a cocoon. Three Wisconsin schools dismissed their classes as soon as the program was over so that all the children could go cocoon hunting. Within five minutes after the end of the program, two children found a cocoon in the woods near their schoolhouse.

Mac's youthful listeners have shown their appreciation in myriad ways. Fairview school, in West Allis, Wisconsin, published a monthly magazine, the *Fairview Trail-Hitter,* which was dedicated to Ranger Mac. A young girl, crippled and confined to a wheelchair, collected specimens of nearly every type of Wisconsin wild flower, which she mounted in a book and presented to Mac to show her appreciation for his program. It is a great tribute to McNeel, for in gathering the flowers in the collection she painfully wheeled her-

(Continued on page 672)

Dancing Plus

By FRANCIS A. COMPTON and MARGARET STIER

"WHEN ARE WE going to have some more discussion groups and craft classes and things like that?" The question came from a group of boys and girls, members of the Co-Ed Club, who went on record at the beginning of the school year 1944 as wanting not less dancing but more activities which are perhaps less ephemeral pleasures.

The question may seem startling at first glance. It was based on the satisfying experience these youngsters had had during the previous school year. In 1942-43, the Carondelet Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. included in their program dancing for boys and girls in high schools of St. Louis, Missouri. The dances, held on the first and third Thursdays of each month, were open to any high school boy or girl who had 15 cents and "a pair of dancing shoes." Theoretically the parties were planned by a committee of youngsters picked by "Y" workers. Actually, at the beginning of the program any planning done by the committee followed considerable prodding by adult advisers! But the dances were popular, and attendance ran from 80 to 160 dancers.

Lessons from Hindsight

For some months the program continued in the form of inexpensive public dances for teen-agers. By the time school opened in the fall of 1943, however, a good deal of thinking and planning had been going on in the minds of the workers in charge of the project. As a result, members of the 1942-43 Co-Ed Committee were asked to meet with the "Y" leaders for a preview of the program. The adults had some suggestions to offer. Dancing, they said, is an integral and important part of young people's activities, but it should not be the entire program. Therefore, for its second year, the proposed program for the co-ed group would include dancing on the first and third Thursday of each month as usual, but on the second and fourth Thursdays, participation in special interest classes, in hobby groups, in discussions of subjects of interest to their age level. Furthermore, instead of having the co-ed activities the free-for-all, open-to-the-teen-age public affairs that they had been the year before, the adults suggested putting all activities on the basis of membership in a club. Club membership would be open to anyone between the ages of fourteen and seventeen. Dues were to be 25 cents a year, with a small additional charge for the dances.

The committee listened to the proposition, then shook their heads. "It's a swell idea," they said, "and would be good for the 'kids' but we're not sure they'll be interested." They were willing, however, to give the plan a try, and agreed to "talk it up" if the "Y" leaders were willing to see a decided drop in membership. The "Y" people were willing and explained that they would rather do a really good piece of work for thirty or forty youngsters than provide entertainment only for 150.

The Second Year's Program

And so a new program came into being. The dances went on much as usual except that they were open only to club members who continued to pay the 15 cents entrance fee. A "Casanova Nite" was added to the dance program on the fourth Saturday in each month. This was a dress-up affair—no slacks, sweaters, or skirts for the girls; coats and ties required (to be worn and kept on) for the boys. Casanova Nites were special, too, because a five-piece orchestra replaced the Thursday night juke box, and refreshments were served.

The alternate Tuesday nights were the surprise! Instead of the twenty-five or thirty boys and girls expected, the attendance never fell below fifty. Twice it was eighty. These evening programs began at 7:30 for such youngsters as were hobby-minded. With volunteers as leaders, the boys and girls spent an hour at dramatics, music, or crafts. At 8:30 all of the hobby groups, augmented by other club members who were not interested in taking part in the first hour, came together for a discussion period. The topics were chosen by the Co-Ed Committee in consultation with their sponsors. The leaders, who came as volunteers from the community, talked on the evening's topic during the first part of the program. Then the question was thrown open for discussion from "the floor." At 9:30 the whole group turned in for half

an hour of social dancing, chatting, and general relaxation before they went home at 10:00.

There were two sessions of discussion during 1943-44. The subject for the first session was a "natural"—boy and girl relationships. The specific subjects for discussion were: "Boy Meets Girl"; "Parent Trouble?"; "It's a Date"; and "Who to Woo—and How!" The general subject for the winter quarter was vocational training with particular reference to the situation high school students might expect to meet after the war. The individual topics were: "Jobs—What Can I Do Best?"; "Jobs — Just a Thumb in the Dyke?"; "Jobs — Comes the Peace, Then What?"; and "The Relation of Labor Unions to Young Workers." The spring session was devoted to the characteristics and customs of a number of foreign countries.

During the summer the Co-Eds moved out of doors. Hikes, picnics, swimming, and skating parties superseded dancing and discussions.

Service projects during this time were varied. The youngsters gathered materials and packed overseas kits, sent stockings of candy and nuts to settlement houses, knitted for the Russian War Relief, put on a community New Year's Eve Dance, and participated in the March of Dimes campaign.

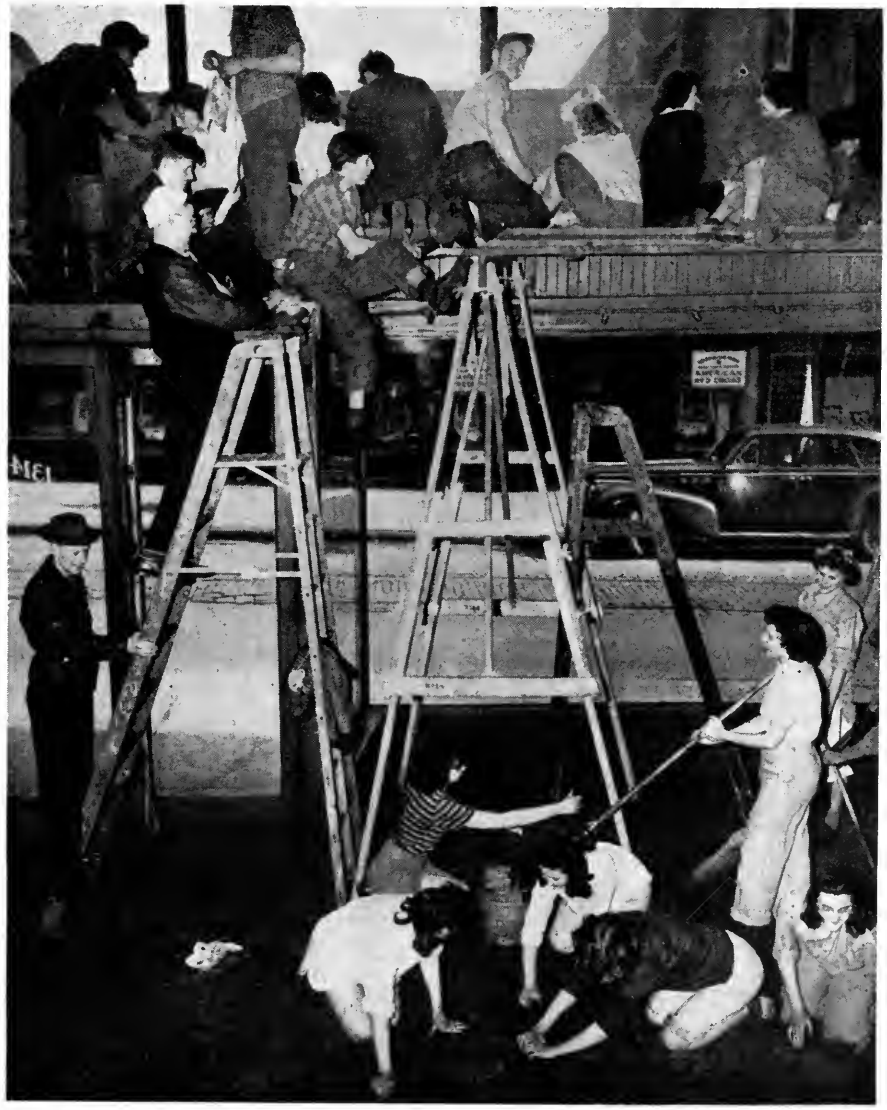
Committee Responsibility

When the sponsors were asked the question that begins this article the reply was, "We'd better get the committee together and do some planning." This showed, perhaps, one of the biggest gains that had taken place in the program during the year, for now the committee really worked! They had developed to a remarkable degree ability and capacity for planning and for carrying out their plans. No longer did they need to be prodded into activity. The success of their work can be partly measured by the fact that the membership of the club grew to 437 by the spring of 1944. One of the committee's major activities had been a retreat to a camp near the city to plan for the 1944-45 programs. The retreat was a high spot in the committee's experience.

There have been changes with the expansion of the program, and this year we have widened our base of participation very substantially. The Co-Ed Committee of young people which planned the activities of the club last year was composed of

(Continued on page 668)

Getting a youth club ready for action



Courtesy Y.W.C.A., Altoona, Pa.

The Hut

By N. L. MALLISON
Lieutenant Commander, USNR

So many interesting letters and stories are coming to us from recreation workers serving with the armed forces in the South Pacific and on other far-flung battle fronts that we feel we must share some of them with our readers. These workers tell us as much as the censor will permit of their experiences, and they write us of the help they are getting from the publications of the Association.

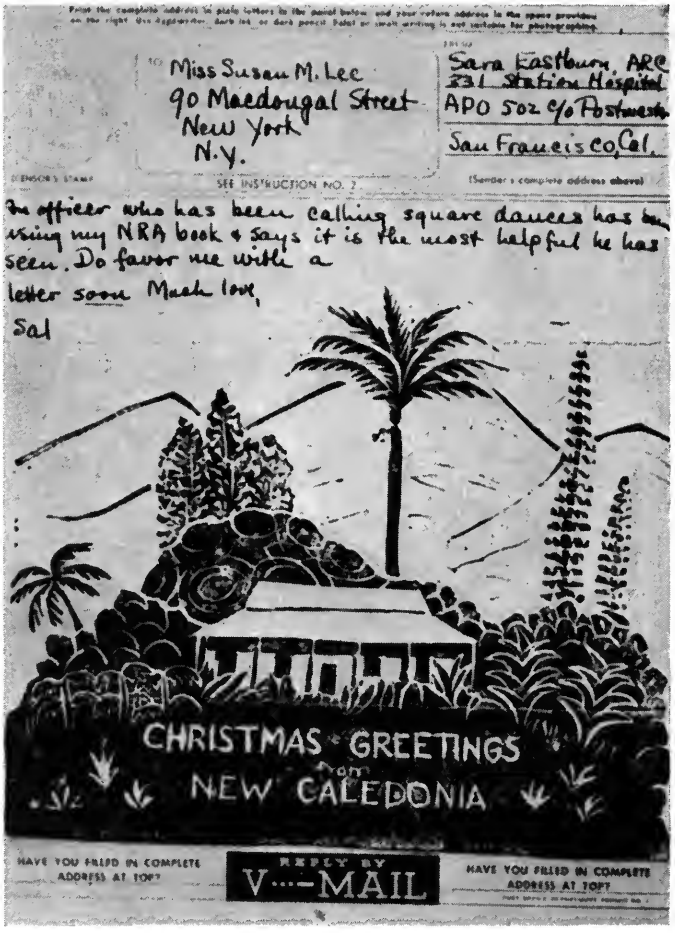
Lieut. Comdr. Mallison was Superintendent of Recreation at Jacksonville, Florida, when he entered the service of the Navy.

IT IS ELEGANT—the enlisted men's recreation hut. It is a thatched structure 145 feet long. The roof doesn't leak. It is painted in soft pastel shades of brown and green inside. Some of the seats are upholstered—in old mattresses and canvas. Yes, it is elegant. For this is the South Pacific.

A reading and writing room with a gear locker and service counter for issuing library books and athletic gear fills one end of the Hut. Here are well lighted writing tables, bulletin boards with all the latest maps, about twenty different magazines (not over a month old!), approximately 2,000 fairly good books.

The Hut's second room is equipped with two octagonal card tables, four small game tables, an antique piano, and a few benches. A loud speaker can be used for special announcements, or for playing the special records sent overseas by the Navy Department, or for broadcasting the election returns.

The third section of the Hut is used most of the time for games and sports, for ping-pong and boxing, for wrestling and tumbling and exercise on the mats. The ping-pong enthusiasts are a little grim just now because their tables, covered with white cloths, display articles made of plastic, tortoise shell, stainless steel, native woods, and sea shells—articles made by one of the C.B. regiments in an interlude from Jap-killing. A few paintings, a few decorated coconuts, skills of hand of the same regiment, hang on the walls. Later the Solomon Island Art Exhibit (on loan) will replace the local show.


Miss Susan M. Lee
90 Macdougal Street
New York
N.Y.
Sara Eastburn, ARC
231 Station Hospital
APO 502 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Cal.
SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2
(Sender's complete address above)
an officer who has been calling square dances has been using my NRA book & says it is the most helpful he has seen. Do favor me with a letter soon Much love,
Sal
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
from
NEW CALEDONIA
HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?
REPLY BY
V···-MAIL
HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

The Hut is the hub of the recreational life of this Pacific island base. Between it and the mess hall lie the "playing fields"—two paddle tennis courts, a badminton court, a patio with easy garden chairs and a little pergola where punching bags and heavy bags hang ready for a little punishment at the hands of restless servicemen. At the other side of the Hut four horseshoe pitching courts, a volley ball court, and the Halsey outdoor theater await their various usages. Here, too, is a "wet" canteen. "Step right up, fellows, for beer and ice cream, coca-colas or ice cream sodas (*two* flavors!)" Between rocky cliffs of coral, with infinite and patient labor of filling in swamps, abbreviated softball diamonds have

grown. They are not full size except for the two Fleet Recreation Centers, but one of the teams has a pitcher who used to be with the Chicago Cubs before he went into service. His team gets beaten once in a while, but the whole outfit is looking forward to what he will do to the New Zealand officers who will take us on at their seaplane base. Of course, they will probably take the Americans into camp when they come here for a cricket match!

The Hut has been generatrix to "Scandals," developed by the band (popular at home and about to go "on the road" to a large island in another area) and hostess to USO and service shows when opera stars and concert artists change off on alternating weeks with a group of bluejackets who call themselves the "Modernairs."

No day is complete for the Hut without its movie. Going to see the picture at night is almost as routine as washing your face in the morning. There are many "gripes" at an occasional "stinker," but a check with home papers shows that the South Pacific is seeing much the same movies as Main Street, many of them in "glorious technicolor."

But, though the Hut is the "unlaxing" center for the base, there are always moments when you just kind of want to go off by yourself and listen to the radio—quietly. So, each unit has a small rec hut or day room. To those refuges and to some barracks are assigned radios capable of pulling in the states, "Tokyo Rose," and the local "Mosquito Network."

The Hut is birthplace of the *Tattler,* the department newspaper. World News at a Glance, Sport Shorts by Schwartz, the Stale Wit Parade, schedules of all local events of importance, and cartoons on Sunday are a few of the reasons why this brainchild of the Hut is having no subscription cancellations.

Around Christmas time the Hut was awhirl with extra bustle. A contest was in progress—a contest for Christmas cards and poems. The battered old mimeograph machine stuttered and chattered and groaned as several thousand designs rolled off on their V-mail blanks.

There will be V-mail cards for other occasions, too, for the Fourth of July, birthdays, anniversaries. No charge!

If it weren't for the weather the Hut would have never a care in the world. During monsoon season there can be as much as five inches of rain in twelve hours, and the "stormy winds do blow" at the rate, sometimes, of 100 miles per hour—and that's a high wind in case you don't know it! Last year the Hut weathered the season without too much difficulty. This year we are all hoping that the season will confine itself to the daily showers of blessing that we have all gotten more or less used to.

There are many other pleasures to be found in or near the Hut. There is, for instance, the doughnut machine which knocks off 540 items an hour—fun to watch, fun to eat. The band plays for many occasions, including church services. A "University" is useful as well as recreational. Yes, the Hut is doing yeoman service in the battle against boredom and homesickness on this South Pacific island. More power to it and to the men who make it "tick."

Some of the rather more unusual forms of recreational opportunities provided by tropical waters are described in a letter from a lieutenant somewhere overseas. We present some extracts from the letter, which was published in the October issue of the *Nature Guide News Letter* sent out by Dr. William G. Vinal.

"The beach and ocean are just outside your tent. The coral beds extend out to the reef 600 yards from shore, and in that water lies the source of great recreational opportunities. Some men buy outriggers from natives and fix them with their own devices. They race. Some 'requisition' old discarded auxiliary airplane gas tanks and fashion them into swift boats; others walk out on to the reef and watch the waves roll in. You can look into a wall of water and see as clearly as through an aquarium and you watch for schools of fish. There they are! Pull the pin, throw it — 1-2-3-4-Boom! and you have fish to supplement an otherwise dull menu. In the moss-like coral beds you see countless types of tiny fish — tropical fish — and their shapes and colors are indescribable. The rainbow dulls in their light. The medics built an outdoor aquarium of concrete. They have coral and live cowry shells, and they bring their tropical fish to the aquarium. It is a fine job. The biggest hobby here is shell collecting. Cowry shells are used for money in Africa by some native tribes. The men spend hours hunting for these and catseyes. They make beautiful bracelets and necklaces. They take Australian coins and beat them into rings and mount catseyes in them. They make lapel pins for girls and catseye brooches, the setting beat out of a coin. They cut aluminum and the plastic nose from wrecked planes and fashion intricate jewelry using the shells that they found by wading for hours and turning

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National Music Week–1945

RECREATION leaders are each year finding more varied and productive ways of participating in National Music Week, beginning always the first Sunday in May. The observance is now approaching its twenty-second anniversary, May 6-13.

In St. Louis a large Song and Folk Festival was organized by the Park and Recreation Department to stimulate interest in singing and folk dancing. White and colored community centers chose themes for a fifteen minute performance — such as South of the Border, Southern Melodies, Gypsy, Cowboy, Indian — and fathers, mothers, boys, girls, and kindergarten groups took part, according to the report of Bernard C. Winkelmann, Superintendent of Recreation, to the National Music Week Committee. For the grand finale the entire chorus composed of all centers sang four army songs, with the best soloist leading in "Say a Prayer for the Boys Over There."

In Birmingham, Alabama, the Recreation Department has a prominent place on the central Music Week Committee, composed of representatives of the high schools, colleges, and Federated Music Clubs. For a number of years, according to Agnes C. Henagan, Director of Women's and Girls' Activities, the Department has been arranging concerts and special programs with local talent and volunteer groups, every afternoon and evening during the observance.

Other cities in which recreation workers take the initiative in the observance, or constitute a leading element in the central committee are Reading, York, and Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Columbus, Ohio, Baltimore, Maryland, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Alton, Illinois. Boston has recently taken advantage of the occasion to demonstrate that music-making, for the love of it, is a legitimate, even integral, part of a comprehensive recreation program. In that city last spring, the Community Recreation Service acted as a clearing house for twenty-six local agencies, and a month before the observance called a meeting "to exchange ideas on what is the most practical yet meaningful manner in which to participate in Music Week this year."

How can recreation executives help in the promotion of National Music Week?

The 1945 *Letter of Suggestions* has an answer to this question:

"In addition to featuring musical activities fostered by their departments, recreation executives can serve effectively by cooperating with existing Music Week committees, or by taking the initiative in organizing community-wide committees where none exist. Music Week committees might well canvass the public recreation departments to see what help they have to offer in facilities, leadership, and publicity."

A community night is often a feature of the participation, and it is growing in popularity. The event provides an occasion for the appearance of musical talent, both individual and ensemble, and for the representation, through their musical offerings, of at least half a dozen different types of organizations, many not primarily musical. The teen canteen for instance, though it has not yet scheduled choral or instrumental rehearsals, may still have a place on the program with its best boy or girl singer, or may even be able to shine with a vocal quartet or an instrumental trio. At the same time, it will have a chance to "tell the world" that its members consider music-making a part of wholesome recreation and of growing-up in a rounded adaptable way. Boise, Idaho; Flint, Michigan; Durham, North Carolina; and Salem, Oregon, are among the fairly large cities in which community night has been a Music Week highlight and a unifying force.

Audience singing frequently, but not always, provides the background for community night programs. Songs of the armed forces, patriotic songs, and hymns are the material most favored in these war times, but there is usually a warm response to folk music, ballads, and simple old-time airs, especially if directed by a trained leader. The need for such leaders is greater than can be met in most places, and the recreation worker who fits himself for conducting groups of this kind can render a genuine service.

The 1945 *Letter of Suggestions* is now available from the National Music Week Committee, in care of the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York. Write at once for a copy of the Letter and make your plans to play a part in the effort to "Use Music to Foster Unity for the War and the Peace to Follow."

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"Monument Enough"

In a letter which a Kentucky friend was directed to open after his death, Irvin Cobb, the humorist, asked that his ashes be laid at the roots of a dogwood tree in Paducah at the proper planting season. "Should the tree live," continued the author, "that will be monument enough for me."

ALL OVER THE WORLD today Americans are giving their lives as members of the fighting forces of our country. Wherever they have fallen, and wherever they lie buried, they are heroes who have given that last full measure of devotion. Many of them will remain in hallowed ground in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the islands of the Pacific, just as men who fell in World War I remained at Belleau Wood, Romagne, and other American cemeteries abroad.

At home a grateful people in thousands of communities will wish to honor these heroes, to whom we cannot do honor enough. When the war is won we may expect a multitude of projects sponsored by cities and towns, veterans' groups, civic organizations and others to raise victory monuments to those who will not return. What form will these take? Will we break out again in a rash of statues, obelisks and sculptural nightmares that please only the sculptors and the memorial committees? We trust not.

There is a movement gathering momentum today that holds promise of more fitting memorials to war heroes than the past has vouchsafed their memories. It is the sentiment for living memorials. It is a movement that is spontaneous, fostered by no one organization, although here and there the idea has resulted in the formation of an official commission on war memorials. Proposals include memorial buildings at educational institutions, stadia and other structures and establishments of practical character. To us, even more appropriate are the many proposals for memorial forests and tree-shaded avenues dedicated to the war dead.

"Expressed in its simplest terms," writes Henry Clepper in an editorial entitled "Living Memorials for War Heroes," in the *Journal of Forestry*, "the thing for which the youth of America is fighting and dying is home. What is home? It is not a house, a third-floor apartment, a hotel bedroom.

"Home is an elm-shaded New England village. Home is Central Park. Home is moss-draped live oaks along the Gulf Coast. Home is the windbreak on a Dakota farm. It is cottonwoods along a prairie creek. It is Rocky Mountain National Park. It is the redwoods. It is outdoor America."

Already communities are moving to make some part of outdoor America a memorial to the heroes of Guadalcanal and Saipan; Bataan and Wake; Salerno and Anzio; Avranches and Aachen; Burma and China, and thousands of other more obscure battlefields. In several states, cities and towns have already started the creation of memorial forests that will live; that will shelter and provide havens for the sons and daughters of those who fell. Elsewhere proposals are being made for preservation of areas in wild parks, where beauty and utility may live together in perpetual memory of those such areas honor.

After World War I the American Tree Association, under the leadership of the late Charles Lathrop Pack, urged the planting of individual memorial trees, groves of trees and small forested areas. Thousands of trees were so planted, dedicated and registered. The idea of living memorials is not new but it has been proved sound. Perhaps unfortunately, no such inspirational and non-commercial organization leads the way today,

"Whether it be park or forest, wildlife sanctuary or memorial avenue, we believe that those who have given all that was in their power to give would say that it were 'monument enough.' "

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Treasure Chests of Books

A project for the children of Europe in which the children of the playgrounds of America may have a part, if they will

"GET TORCHES! Burn! Set fire to the books. Make a bonfire of the accumulated knowledge, the centuries-old, accumulated knowledge of man. Destroy with fire Europe's culture-hoard. Burn it!"

The order went out. The books were burned. The odor of their destruction drifted across continents and oceans. The flames they fed were wild fire. The holocaust seared a world in its burning.

The flames are beginning to burn less fiercely now. The conqueror is no longer all-powerful over the conquered. The fires are dying out in places. But the books are gone, consumed beyond hope of recall. A generation of children is growing up bookless in Europe.

Can we and our children do anything about it? Can we in safe America repair in part, at least, the damage of fire? The Book Committee of the Women's Council for Post War Europe, Inc., feels that something can be done, and has already made a beginning. There have been difficulties. Plans had to be made and details worked out. Changes on the war fronts have occasioned changes in procedure. But by the opening of Children's Book Week in November, a chest of a hundred books was ready to start on its way to the children of devastated France. The chest was made and decorated by the Boy and Girl Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls of New York City. The books were selected and purchased by the students of Horace Mann School. The chest was presented with cere-

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Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls decorate the first Treasure Chest for France which was presented at the Book Week luncheon held in New York City November 11th, on behalf of the Women's Council for Post War Europe

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

"*AMPHIBIANS* and Reptiles of South Dakota," by W. H. Over. Vermillion, S. D., $.25.

Bees. The Connecticut State Bee Keepers Association was concerned about the large destruction of bees. The promiscuous spraying of fruit trees has killed not only honey bees, but other useful insects and even the birds that eat the dead insects. Chemists are trying to find something attractive to obnoxious insects that will lure them to other localities at spraying time.

Chiggers. Hardy United States soldiers in war games in Louisiana were buying nail polish! Investigation proved that nail polish contains collodion which is good for chigger bites.

Conservation. The New Hampshire Conservation Council plans to bring out a series of educational leaflets on Conservation to be used by leaders and youngsters.

Conservation in Rhode Island. The second Conservation Workshop was held at Goddard Park sponsored by the Rhode Island Wildlife Federation, the Rhode Island Audubon Society, the Rhode Island Garden Clubs, and the Rhode Island State Colleges. Credit was given for "classroom" work which was mostly in the field. If interested in obtaining further information write Harold Madison, Butler Hospital, Providence, R. I.

Deer, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service is the leading big-game animal in the United States. Population estimates were as follows: White-tailed deer, 3,526,000; Muledeer, 1,523,000; Columbian Black-tailed deer, 323,600; Elk, 207,700; Prong-horned antelope, 176,600; Black bear, 106,900. Woodland Caribou was lowest in population count with fifteen of them left in Minnesota. Grizzly Bear was second lowest with 1,250 in six states.

Duck Banding at McGuines Slough, Chicago, and at Chatauqua Lake Refuge near Havana, Illinois has brought an interesting report. 5,909 ducks were banded in one year. Over half of them were "repeats" or "star boarders." One coot flew to Pennsylvania in six days. Several teal were killed in the West Indies. Some erratic birds turned around and flew back north. Birds do not always behave the way the books say they should!

Ecological Thinking. Skunks eat turtle eggs. Turtles eat ducklings. Boys trap skunks for fur. Ducks disappear. Boys stop trapping skunks and ducks return to nest on the big marsh.

Gardening. "Pest Control in the Home Garden" by Louis Pyenson. The Macmillan Co. 190 pp. Illus. $2.

Home Improvement. "Our Beautiful Yard" by Clara M. Olson. The University of Florida Project in Applied Economics, Room 317, P. K. Yonge Building, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. 66 pp. Illus. $.40.

Sparrow Hawks are of distinct benefit in destroying insects and rodents. They eat grasshoppers and field mice instead of sparrows. Mount Desert was never an after-dinner confection. Spanish moss is neither Spanish nor moss. A saw horse is not a horse. Americanese is funny anyway.

Spider's Observation Card. Put a spider in a glass jar and alongside it put an observation card such as this:

The Crab Spider (*misumena vatia*) is white with light red bands on the side. He "sits" on a flower and catches insects as they come near him. Placed on a yellow flower he will turn yellow. Which pair of legs is longest? Why? Why doesn't this spider spin a web?

Sugar Maple. Perhaps the automobile and the ease of getting to market caused the decline in maple

(Continued on page 672)

"I would set forth how guiding Nature turns her guiding reins, telling with what laws her providence keeps safe this boundless universe, binding and tying each and all with cords that never shall be loosed.

"If the bird who sings so lustily upon the high treetop be caught and caged, men may minister to him and feed him with all gentleness on plenteous food; yet if he fly to the roof of his cage and see the shady trees he loves, he spurns with his foot the food they have put before him; the woods are all his sorrow calls for."—From *The Consolation of Philosophy,* by Boethius, Roman philosopher born about 475 A.D.

WORLD AT PLAY

A Gift for Lansing

LANSING, Michigan, has had a gift recently. It is something special in presents—forty acres of park land with a mile of fine river frontage. As a result of the generosity of R. E. Olds, a citizen of Lansing, the city now controls both sides of the Grand River for five miles. An active boat club goes with the land. The city plans to develop a boat basin with wells for fifty boats and dock space for many more.

Victory Gardens 1944

TWENTY different kinds of vegetables were grown and cared for by San Francisco children in their community gardens which amply supplied their families with fresh vegetables. The children also raised many flowers which they took home with them. Not content with summer gardening, the children planted winter vegetables.

A Nature Center in Indianapolis

THE INDIANAPOLIS Park Department maintains in Holiday Park a center for nature and garden groups. The building used is an old house that has been somewhat renovated to provide meeting rooms, library and office space. The building is located adjacent to the horticultural area of the Botanic Garden and to a large natural park.

The director gives full time during the summer and half time during the winter to the program. This includes field trips for the study of both native and horticultural plants, lectures, and group instruction. The users of the area are about evenly divided between adults and children. School groups make use of the facilities, although transportation difficulties have somewhat curtailed this program at present.

Wednesday Night Cook-Out

LAST SUMMER at Humboldt Park, Chicago, a regular Wednesday night campfire, cook-out, and song fest was held. To sustain interest a definite theme was selected for each night. On Gypsy Night a stew was concocted, and two hundred youngsters contributed twenty different vegetables with thirty pounds of veal. The Humboldt Park victory gardens supplied part of the vegetables. "When two hundred Jewish, Norwegian, Polish, Negro, Greek, Italian, Danish, and Mexican children can get together for American stew, without too many ingredients from any one group, there certainly is hope for the American way of life continuing."

By Horse and Bike

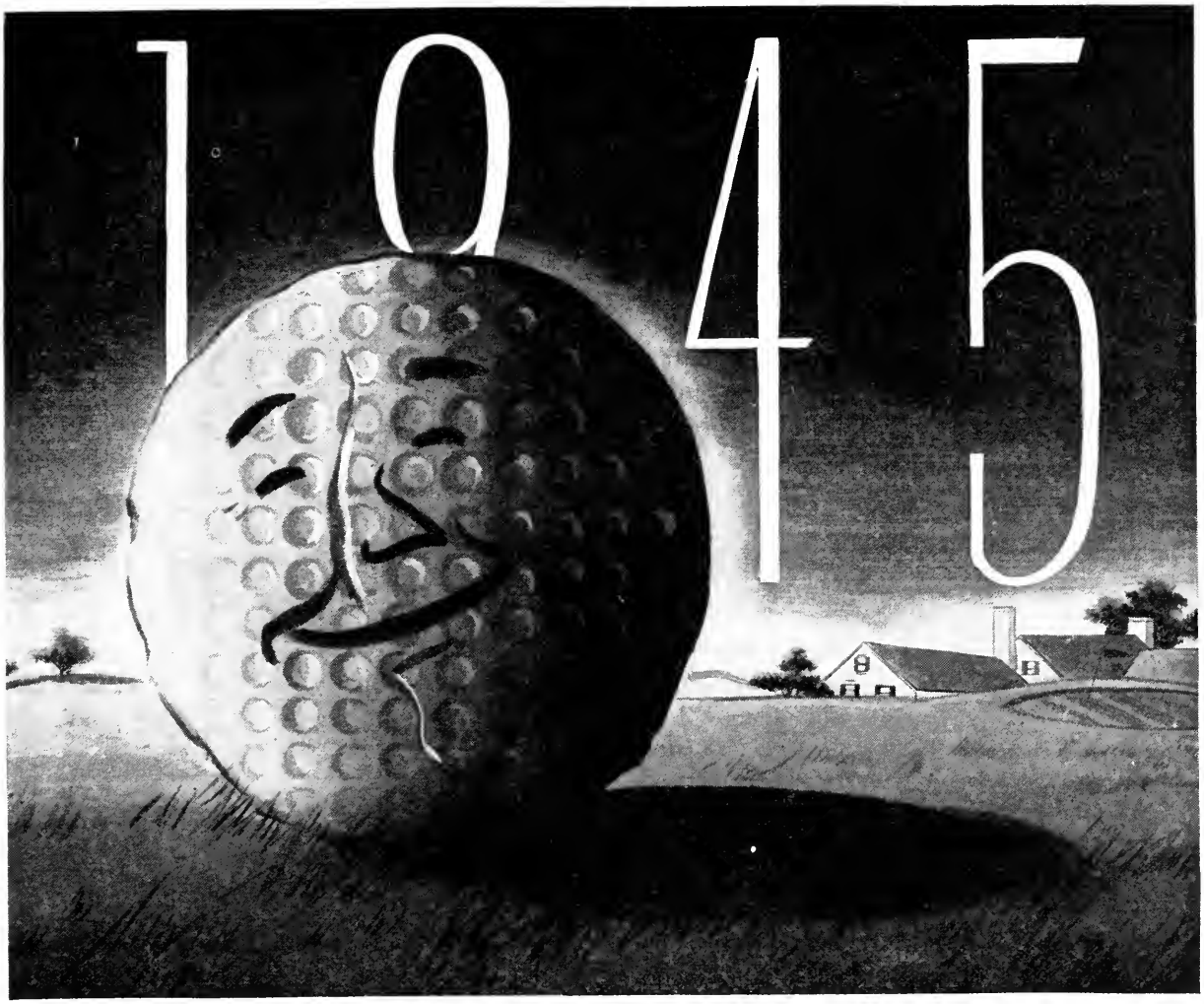
BRIDLE paths and bicycle paths in New York City receive increased use during the fall. There are twenty-nine bicycle paths in the city's park system. They are constantly in use on autumn days testifying to the high popularity of cycling for outdoor recreation. More than seventy miles of bridle paths wind through the parks, too, an invitation to combine exercise and delight in the out of doors.

National Negro Health Week

THE thirty-first observance of National Negro Health Week will be held April 1-8, 1945, under the auspices of the United States Public Health Service. "A healthy family in a healthy home" will be the objective of the Week. Suggestions for observing Health Week, posters, and leaflets are available from the National Negro Health Week Committee, United States Public Health Service, Washington 14, D. C.

Schoolroom Sanction for Supervised Play

THE Columbus, Georgia, Department of Recreation and the public schools have begun a cooperative program to bring supervised play into the school as part of the regular curriculum. Just now there is only one thirty-minute play "class" each week, but plans are afoot for extending the program until there is a daily period set aside for this activity. Weather permitting, active games, folk dancing, or singing games go forward under the supervision of a leader from the Department of Recreation. On rainy days the playground leader works with the children inside the school building. Children look forward to the play programs, and teachers and principals are quick and loud in their praises of it.



Still in there pitchin'

He's a rough, battered old fellow—that "used" golf ball. But he has a heart of gold. And he'll still be in there pitchin' for you in 1945. Without him and his heart of gold you'll get no fresh golf balls of any kind. Should there be any new synthetic rubber golf balls they will go to the boys in the services. So keep *digging* for those used golf balls. They're your only hope for "new" golf balls to sell this year. Send them to us *now* for rebuilding. Wilson Sporting Goods Co., Chicago, New York and other leading cities.

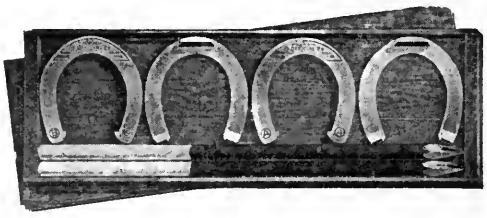
MEMBER: *The Athletic Institute—a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of national physical fitness.*

Let's all boost the "War Memorials That Live" campaign to commemorate our war heroes.

Wilson
GOLF EQUIPMENT

Wilson
Athletic Goods Mfg. Co., Inc.
Chicago Plant

IT'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT



They'll Want Diamond Shoes!

FELLOWS who learned to enjoy the game of horseshoes in army camps and navy bases, with Diamond Pitching Shoes, will call for Diamond Shoes when they get home.

Diamond Pitching Horseshoe Outfits
Diamond Super Ringer Shoes
Diamond Eagle Ringer Shoes
Diamond Standard Official Shoes
Diamond Double Ringer Shoes
Diamond Junior Pitching Shoes
Diamond Stakes and
Official Horseshoe Courts

DIAMOND CALK HORSESHOE CO.
4610 Grand Ave., Duluth, Minn.

For 1945 Green Thumb Gardeners—The National Victory Garden Institute, Inc., 598 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N. Y., is again sponsoring a Victory Garden Contest. There will be an adult division for industrial workers as well as home gardeners, and a youth division with war bond awards for the outstanding gardener in the elementary and high school groups. Each contestant is asked to enter a completed Green Thumb Record Book issued to everyone entering the contest. The book provides the means for keeping a valuable record of what, when, and how much is planted and harvested.

"Today," states a release from the Institute, "there is every indication that there will be more gardens and better ones this year than there were in 1944. Thousands of families are learning for the first time how good home-grown vegetables taste and how much fun it is to grow them."

Negro Center for Newburgh, New York—Through the generosity of a citizen of Newburgh, New York, who willed $100,000 for that purpose, the Negro members of the community will have a community center. A part of the sum left to the city will be used to build or buy a suitable house for the center. The rest will be used for maintenance.

Theater Piece—Barth, Germany, is a name that is all too familiar to many members of the U.S. Air Forces. Just now 3,800 Air Force officers are held prisoners there by the Germans. We cannot, of course, know how they spend *all* their time. A good slice of it, however, has gone into the creation of a musical comedy, *Hit the Bottle*. The production, mounted on a stage made of Red Cross cartons, accompanied on musical instruments provided by the Y.M.C.A., played to the hilt by P.Ws., ran for fourteen successful performances. Even the German captors joined the audience!

Forty Years of Industrial Recreation — The recreation council of the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Corporation is forty years old. The clubhouse was opened in 1905, as a commissary and recreation center for the Allis-Chalmers employees. Since the war began the Clubhouse has expanded to meet the new demands. In addition to a well-rounded program in sports and athletics for both men and women, Allis-Chalmers employees participate in an aviation club which has its own planes, in choral groups and orchestral groups, in chess and checker clubs. There is, too, a Talent Club and there are swimming classes for men and women. The company has its own recreation council which cooperates closely with recreation departments of all near-by towns especially with the department at West Allis where the plant is located.

Music Note—The Chicago Park District has added another member to its family of recreational opportunities. This latest addition is a music department with its own specialist head and assistants who will develop music in the Park District's recreation program. Community orchestras, bands, and choruses are on the agenda for early development.

Fit for War or Peace — The Committee on Physical Fitness, Federal Security Agency, believing that "the wealth of the nation is in the strength of the people" has prepared a manual to help communities organize and maintain a

SHEPARD PARK PLAYGROUND
IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE HEROES OF SHEPARD TOWNSHIP WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN WORLD WAR II
VICTORY STADIUM
THIS LIVING MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO THE USE OF THE COMMUNITY IN MEMORY OF THE MEN AND WOMEN
THIS
BASEBALL DIAMOND
IS DEDICATED TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF BELL COUNTY WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES THAT FREEDOM MIGHT LIVE
MARCH 16, 1945
This time— let's dedicate MEMORIALS THAT LIVE!
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER
HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.
LOUISVILLE, KY.
ARMY
NAVY
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BATS

This message is published by the Hillerich & Bradsby Company in furtherance of the plans of The American Commission for Living War Memorials to build "living" memorials following America's victory in World War II. Inquiries regarding the work of this commission should be addressed to Mr. George M. Trautman, 30 East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio.

thoroughgoing and easily accessible physical fitness program. The booklet is designed for easy and effective use with a wealth of illustrative material. Copies of the booklet may be obtained from the Committee on Physical Fitness, Federal Security Agency, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C., or from the Athletic Institute, 209 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Publicity for Youth Centers — The teen-age "gang" at the Lakeland High School has worked out its own publicity program for the "Hi-Spot." Twice each month the high schoolers publish a paper, *The Bagpipe*. Each issue has a whole page devoted to news about the teen center and the "doings" that are taking place or are in the making there. If teen-agers in this Florida town are unaware of their own club they just don't read their own paper!

Negro Community Building — Members of the Carver Foundation of Norwalk, Connecticut, have succeeded in raising $25,000 with which they have purchased an old home and renovated it as a community building for use of the Negro population. A general community program will provide a variety of interests in this center, to be known as the Carver Foundation Annex. In the meantime, the hope is to raise more money until the fund is large enough to build a modern community building.—*Recreation Bulletin* for November 25, 1944, published by the Division of Recreation, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

BASEBALL BASES
Both National regulation "hardball" and "softball" bases are used as the standard in many leagues and recreational departments. Guaranteed to give long playing satisfaction. National patented reversible softball bases have proven extremely popular. Write for complete details.
NATIONAL
SPORTS EQUIPMENT CO.
365 MARQUETTE • FOND DU LAC, WIS.

Evart G. Routzahn

RECENTLY THE Elisabeth S. Prentiss National Award in Health Education was presented to Evart G. Routzahn and Mary Swain Routzahn. This award is of interest to recreation workers because Mr. Routzahn, before his death, and his wife always had been ready to help the recreation movement. Thirty-five years ago, when the recreation movement was in its pioneer stages, Mr. Routzahn went out of his way to give all aid in his power to the new movement. He was concerned that everything possible should be done to build it up. He always recognized the value of recreation for its own sake as well as a factor in building individual and public health.

At the meeting where the Award was made, there was recognition of Mr. Routzahn's delight in unusual toys, gadgets or tools, of his collecting instinct, of how his friends brought odd toys to him from their trips abroad. "Perhaps what was really unusual about his love of ingenious gadgets was his complete and frank acceptance of them. Most of us in our struggle to be adult feel apologetic about playing with Junior's electric train or peering over the heads of the crowd to see the exhibit in a store window. Not unlike this quality was E.G.R.'s complete identification with everyday people."

Many mentioned Evart G. Routzahn's "tonic humor." His criticism was frank and outspoken, but always with a smile. No matter how busy he was, he always had time for his garden. He was guided by a deep enthusiasm, and always he hated dullness. His own spirit was such that he belonged in a peculiar way to the national recreation movement.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

A New Way to Use Old Firehouses—One of the most important planks in the platform of Cincinnati's long-term recreation planning is the development of a practical program of activities in each of the city's neighborhoods. To this end the Recreation Department "keeps its eye peeled" for suitable buildings for neighborhood centers. One such center was set up in an abandoned firehouse. Its rehabilitation was financed by the Fraternal Order of Police. A trained leader from the Recreation Department helps guide policies and develop activities.

Citation — The Los Angeles Civic Chorus, noted for years as one of the West's outstanding choral groups, has taken a leading part in wartime musical activities—in war bond drives and patriotic rallies, and special concerts for servicemen and women. Because its contribution to the war effort has been considered outstanding this group, sponsored by the Los Angeles City Recreation Department, received from the Music War Council the Distinguished Service Citation "for distinguished service to our country through patriotic and inspiring use of music to aid the national effort."

Pets in the Home

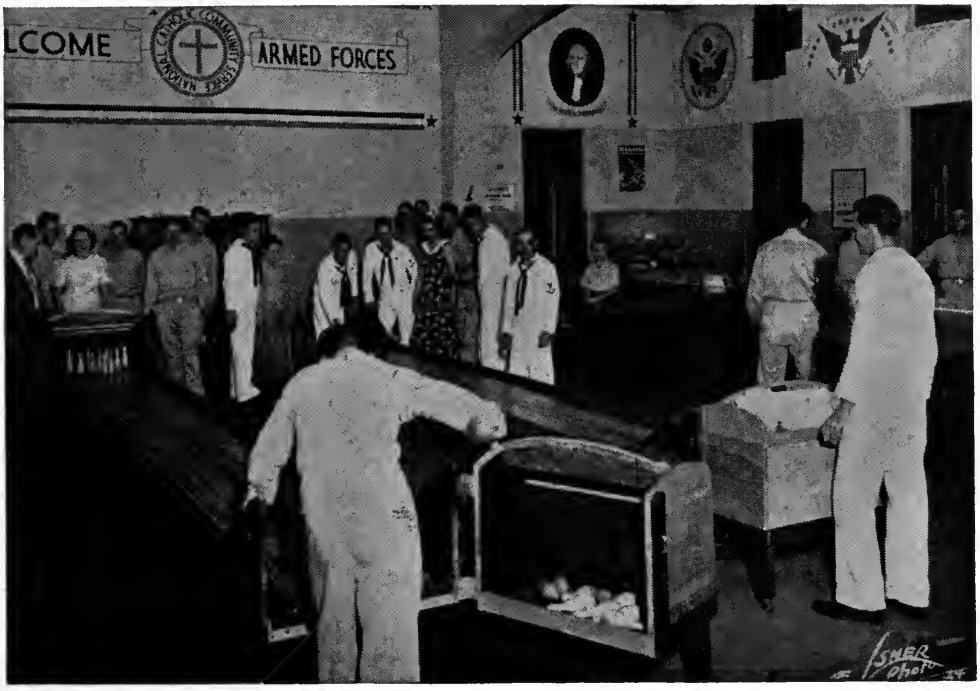
(Continued from page 631)

may attract some of the hole-nesting birds, and trees and shrubs provide additional nesting spots. The crowding of nesting sites is inadvisable, as most birds require nesting space and will not appropriate boxes too close to others of the same species. Boxes must be built for particular species of birds, as requirements of hole openings, size of rooms, and other details differ.

Food and water are two other requirements of birds that attract them to yards. Feeding trays, winter feeding shelters, suet venders, and water containers all are usable. Winter feeding is particularly fruitful, as birds have difficulty securing adequate supplies after heavy snows. Summer feeding is less needed from the birds' point of view, but it makes possible close observation and "taming" of birds.

Sometimes young birds and injured birds are found and attempts are made to make pets of them. Generally young birds who have just left the nest should not be picked up, as the parents will care for them if they are not disturbed. When accidents have befallen parent birds, feeding of the young may be necessary for their survival. Feeding is, however, difficult, because food should approximate natural foods and be given in small quantities a great number of times a day. Injured birds seldom survive without expert care, and killing is generally the most humane treatment.

Crows, if captured young, make interesting and amusing pets. Crows are among the most intelligent of birds, and with proper training they can be given the freedom of the yard. They tend to be noisy, mischievous, and thieving. They may become quite attached to an individual and exceedingly demanding in attention. Starlings and jays



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are two other birds that seem to do well as home pets.

Other Pets. Many of the lower forms of animal life are also kept as pets in the home. They generally show little response to people, but the chance to observe and study them close at hand makes keeping them worth while.

Frogs, toads, salamanders, and turtles should be provided with a marsh-type terrarium in which both land and water are available. Such a terrarium may be a rectangular glass container with a built-up land area at one side, with marsh and woodland plants.

The woodland and desert-type terrariums can provide habitats for lizards and small snakes. It must always be remembered that certain species cannot be kept together lest one be used as food by the other.

Can You Meet These Tests?

There are certain criteria relative to keeping pets in the home. The following are a few of the tests to be applied:

1. Can proper conditions of housing, food, and care be provided? No animals, large or small, should be kept unless all three of these conditions can be met. Good references on proper care and feeding are available and should be consulted.

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2. Will the pets have kindly care? Here is a chance to teach children responsibility and consideration for animals. There is a middle-of-the-road attitude towards animals that avoids oversentimentality and yet assures kindliness, understanding, and respect for the needs and innate character of animals.

3. Do you know the legal restrictions on the keeping of animals? The laws differ in the various states.

4. Do you understand the nature and requirements of your pet? Is it an animal that can stand handling?

Some Source Material

The following references will be of great help in solving the problems involved in pet care:

Our Small Native Animals — Their Habits and Care, by Robert Snediger. Random House, New York.

The Book of Wild Pets, by Clifford B. Moore. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

All Pets Magazine. Published by the Lightner Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois.

The Hut

(Continued from page 655)

over countless numbers of rocks, and all this is done with little more than their hands, a file, a spoon for a hammer, a knife."

HUNTING GAME (Patent)
Device for knocking down animals moving 50 to 100 feet per minute. Size: 9' high, 4' wide, 10' long (Including shooting stand). Operated last summer at Recreation Park, Valparaiso, Ind., with great success. For information, subject to trials, write
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R. R. 5, Valparaiso, Indiana

Mrs. Thomas J. Blain

On January 11, 1945, Mrs. Mary Wood Blain, Chairman of the Westchester County Recreation Commission and of the Port Chester Recreation Commission, died after a brief illness. She became a charter member of the Westchester County Recreation Commission in 1924 and for two years had served as Chairman. In 1936 she became Chairman of the Port Chester Recreation Commission.

Recreation leaders from over the country were happy to have Mrs. Thomas J. Blain with them at the Recreation Congress gatherings, to feel her deep interest, her enthusiasm, her readiness to give generously of her strength to build the whole national movment, as well as to carry responsibility in her own locality. Her going is a loss to all who are interested in recreation in this country.

National Music Week—1945

(Continued from page 656)

Community recreation workers should seek some way by which they can take advantage of Music Week, to the benefit of their year-round work. It is an ideal time to focus attention on the formation of musical groups, the need for musical equipment, the enjoyment and personality benefit obtainable through self-expression in music in a social-recreational program. If there is a community Music Week Committee, it should be contacted. If not, there is opportunity for taking the initiative in forming a committee, or at least for independent participation.

National Music Week is a cooperative movement of the musical forces of the nation. The National Committee is composed of the presidents of thirty-four national organizations, which include: Music Educators National Conference, National Federation of Music Clubs, Music Teachers National Association, Music War Council of America, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Daughters of the American Revolution, Federal Council of Churches, Kiwanis International, Lions International, National Recreation Association, and Y.M. and Y.W.C.A.'s.

Victory Gardens—1944 Model

(Continued from page 639)

There would be garden films shown in the afternoon and in the evening each day of the show.

When the Festival days arrived, the results jus-

tified all the work and the planning. Twice as many exhibitors showed as in 1943. Three hundred and fifty ribbons were awarded to prize-winning exhibits. There was much more food, many more healthy and satisfied people in Oak Park. The Committee members were amply rewarded for their time and their effort. They think it likely that when peace brings the end of the immediate and urgent need for Victory Gardens there will still be enthusiastic gardeners victorious because they have found a sure way to contentment and relaxation.

Treasure Chests of Books

(Continued from page 658)

mony by representative children of America to children representing countries overrun by war.

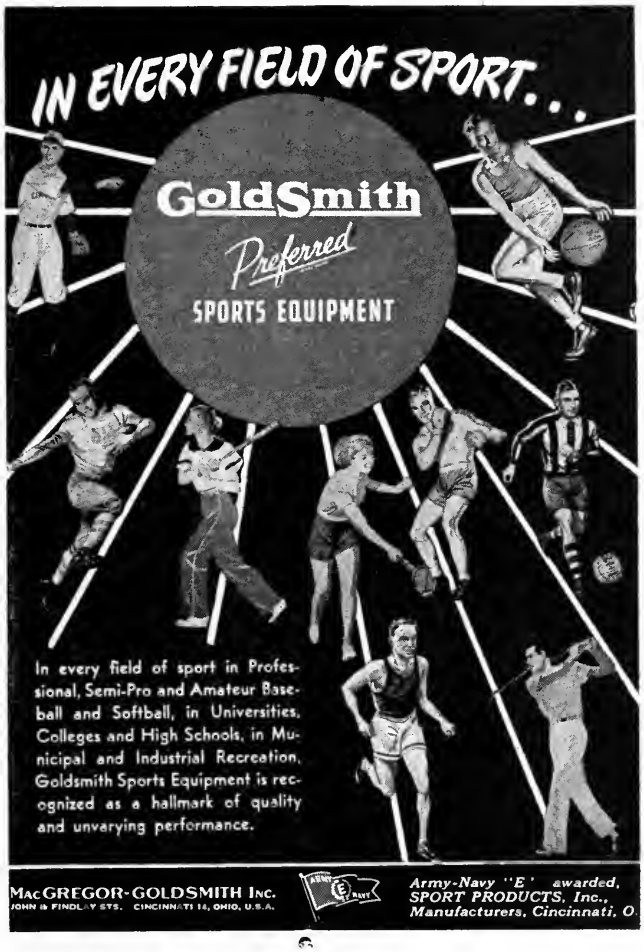
This first chest was an earnest of others to come later. The Book Committee hoped and believed that other children all over the United States would carry on the job of sending other treasure chests of books to other countries.

It seemed possible that some groups would not be ready to undertake so large a project as the hundred book chest, so for them the Committee has suggested a smaller chest of thirty books. That children should have an active part in reading and selecting the books to be sent is part of the plan. A list of suitable books has been prepared. From this the selections should be made. The books in the list are divided into twelve categories suggesting the distribution of the various types of books. These categories are as follows:

Picture books
Information about the world
Stories from the United States
Stories from South and Central America
Stories from other countries
Folk tales of the world
Faiths of the world
Songs of the world
Nature and science
Dictionaries
Christmas books

Two scrapbooks might well be included in the chest. One of them should be filled up with pictures, drawings, information about the group donating or decorating the chest. The other should be blank, included on the chance and in the hope that the youngsters who receive the books might want to fill it with similar material and return it to the donor group.

The country to which the chest is to go is to be the choice of the donor group. Instructions for making and decorating the chests, the list of books for selection, and shipping instructions will be sent on request. Letters of inquiry should be addressed to Mme. Ninon Tallon, Book Committee of Women's Council for Post War Europe, Inc., 366 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York.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Honors to a Recreation Park

(Continued from page 633)

An Azalea Trail which will be as colorful as the one leading from Biloxi to New Orleans along the north shore of the Gulf of Mexico has been started. Silviculture is being used to clear away brush around the larger trees or around graceful groups of trees such as white birches. But the king of Stanley Park is the big "Enchanted Oak," which widely spreads its branches to reign over the rest of the woods. It stands aloof, the better to show its ancient bole, and the cleared circle around it is as dimly lit and quiet as a cathedral.

Over at the picnic grounds is the cement foundation for the "rancho," one of those indoor-outdoor kitchens roofed over to house huge fireplaces

and barbeques with room enough for the picnickers to come inside and eat if the weather turns wet. This is to be completed as soon as priorities permit.

No park is complete without its lake, and the one gracing Stanley Park is a spring lake whose cool placid waters lie at the foot of a laurel covered dingle. In season, big white Pekin ducks float primly on its surface. Altogether, it is a charming rustic place in which to retire of a summer's day or evening and the company, as well as the town itself, awaits the happy V-E day when Mr. Beveridge's elaborate plans for the postwar future of Stanley Park can take progressive and definite shape.

Dancing Plus

(Continued from page 653)

about twenty-two boys and girls. Some were carried over from the 1942-43 school year; others had been selected by the sponsors because of the interest and ability they had shown, while a few were chosen to represent schools, Hi-Y and Girl Reserve groups. Now the Co-Ed Committee is elected by the members of the club instead of being appointed by the sponsors. Members of the club are serving on a number of subcommittees which have been set up as follows:

Publicity, which makes and sends out the folders of programs, sends out special flyers of events, makes announcements and posters of coming activities.

Door, whose members collect the fees at the dances and check memberships.

Entertainment, which provides various kinds of special events at dances.

Food, responsible for refreshments on Casanova Night and other special occasions.

Newspaper, set up to issue a sheet containing news about the club, its activities, and its members.

Decorations, which decorates the dance hall.

Sports, plans and promotes the monthly Sports Nite.

Music, sees that the juke box records are kept up to date and hires the orchestra for special dances.

Membership, promotes membership and contacts inactive members.

This setup makes it possible to draw many members into the activities, as well as to train them for possible Co-Ed Committee jobs in the future.

Membership Policies

The membership policy, too, has been changed. The previous year the dances had been the only program conducted, and they had been open to high school age boys and girls who paid a 15 cent admission fee. At the beginning of the fall program of 1943, it was suggested to the committee that the program might be put on a club membership basis which would make membership a prerequisite to participation in any activity. The committee approved this idea and worked out a plan whereby each person who joined filled out a card giving certain basic information, such as name, address, age, school, name of parents and parents' occupation, church preferences, and other facts. Each boy and girl entering the club paid a 25 cent membership fee and received a card. On the nights when discussion groups were held there was no further charge, the membership card alone admitting a member. However, on dance nights, including Casanova Nite, there was a 15 cent fee in addition to the membership card, and refreshments were offered for sale.

This year the same general policy holds with some minor changes. For example, the original 25 cent membership fee expires the first of March; the next one is good until only October 1945. Furthermore on Casanova Nite there is now a 30 cent charge which includes refreshments. Although we have been registering only about six weeks, we have approximately 175 members now, a number which compares very favorably with the number at the same period last year.

Evaluation

In a general review and evaluation of our program several facts seem to stand out: The group now has a club feeling. No longer are the dances public affairs but a club membership responsibility. In consequence the behavior has improved tremendously. Chairs are no longer tossed about; wrestling and scuffling are a thing of the past. The same boys and girls who created bedlam at the first discussion group by talking at the same time have learned to conduct themselves in an orderly manner with a minimum of disturbances.

The growth of the club program demonstrates very graphically how agencies can and should cooperate for the good of the community when they put their jobs first and maintain their agency identity as a secondary consideration.

The Elementary School Science Room

(Continued from page 643)

These animals must receive the same thoughtful attention given a pet dog in one's home.

Rats, white and hooded, guinea pigs, rabbits (already domesticated) make fine pets. As for *wild* mammals, or *wild* birds, it has been the experience of many science teachers that injured animals, strays, and abandoned young are often brought to school by pupils, parents and others in the community. In most cases such hapless victims would not survive if left to their own resources in their natural habitat. These may serve a good educational purpose in the school, if cared for in captivity under *proper conditions,* for to provide the right conditions requires a knowledge of the food and habits of the animals in the wild. Through caring for them, pupils can learn a great deal about the common animals of the neighborhood, and young squirrels, chipmunks, racoons, skunks, woodchucks, deermice, and meadow mice make entertaining as well as instructive pets. *It should be borne in mind, however, that it is not sound conservation education and certainly not humane to rob nests and homes, take young from parents, or keep any wild animals in captivity indefinitely if they can be released and survive.*

The type of mammal cage most easily cleaned is made of hardware cloth of one-quarter inch or one-half inch mesh with a wooden frame and mesh top, sides and floor. A galvanized metal pan should be fitted beneath the screen flooring of the cage. This is easily pulled out and washed daily and, if sterilized at least once a week can be kept free from odors.

Climbing mammals should have relatively tall cages with a portion of a tree upon which to climb. All of them require a nest box and plenty of clean water. The food requirements are varied and can easily be ascertained from one of several good books on the subject. Naturally one science room would become nothing but a small zoo if all the mammals mentioned here were included at one time, but any school system which maintained a collection of domestic animals to circulate among its several schools would find the animals a source of unending delight and instruction to the children.

Using the Science Room

One teacher or a committee of teachers must of necessity sponsor the science room but the boys and girls should have a large share in it and they

President Roosevelt has designated March as Red Cross month, the period when the 1945 Red Cross War Fund will be raised

love to participate. The setting up of all terraria and aquaria and the care of all the animals and plants should be the work of the children, always with the supervision of a teacher. Care of the science room by individual pupils develops in them a sense of responsibility. It offers them fine opportunities for close and frequent observation and leads them to an appreciation of living things.

Children are ardent collectors, and making a collection for the science room is a fine outlet for their enthusiasm. Tree leaves, weeds of the neighborhood, seeds, insects, insect homes, native rocks and minerals, and birds' nests (taken in winter only) are some of the objects easily gathered.

With all the living material in it, no science room can become a dull and static place, but the children's activities can also enliven it. One class may invite another to see a demonstration of simple experiments on air pressure. A question corner in which some object is displayed for identification or where a question is posted to be answered by observing some particular thing in the room, can be a lot of fun. The school weather bureau should have its headquarters here and hang out the weather flags daily. Electric questioners are fun to make and use.

As mentioned earlier, charts and models made by individual classes for some particular unit

should eventually be displayed in the science room. Each class then has the satisfaction of sharing a worthwhile experience with others. The exhibition of many different projects gives the youngsters a better picture of the whole field of science. In a room full of interesting things, important concepts can be taught easily.

"What's the Name of My Bird?"

(Continued from page 624)

"giddyaps" to his horse or pushes in a lever, and we are both satisfied.

I've been bird watching for twenty-five years and have yet to encounter the dull season in bird-life. And there are always surprises: new birds wandering far out of their natural range; summer birds staying over through a mild winter; finding the nest of a little-known species, or discovering a new customer at the old feeding stand. Because birds are alive and in some ways unpredictable in their actions, no bird student ever finds his hobby growing stale.

Nature Is Fun!

(Continued from page 621)

Set it down and don't disturb it while you watch. Soon the shell will open slightly and a tiny finger-like process, called a foot, will be thrust forth, feeling tentatively here and there. Then this finger begins to move back and forth from contact with the basin to contact with a gland inside, and delicate, pearly-white elastic threads result. You can lift the mussel shell and test the elasticity of the threads, and prolong the experiment to determine how long it takes for the thread to turn brown and acquire strength at the expense of elasticity.

Where there are hermit crabs living in snail shells, an interesting adventure is to collect a number of them, and very gently but firmly with a steady pull, remove them from their shells, big and little, and place them in a basin of sea water. Then add the shells and watch the scramble for a new home. They feel the shells over with their claws, and then turn and back their soft rear ends in like lightning, often in their haste entering a shell that does not fit well at all. Return them all later to the sea so they can secure homes that suit them. One's adventures can't be truly happy if they are needlessly destructive or cruel.

Have You Ever Looked a Lion in the Eye?

Where mammals are available in a zoo or a farming community, it is interesting to investigate the shapes of pupils of eyes. What started me off was finding in a book the statement that lions, being of the cat tribe, have eyes like cats with a perpendicular lens-shaped pupil. So I put this in a mimeographed "see-it-for-yourself" guide on a zoo. (This was before I learned to question the printed word.) What we saw I leave you to find out the first time you get a chance to look a lion in the eye. A companion surprise is the eye of a fox, which is in the dog tribe. Solve that for yourself, too. How many animals can you find that have horizontal quadrilaterals, slightly rounded at the ends, for pupils?

A Novel Kind of Treasure Hunt

In a land of frequent rain there is a specially delightful adventure. I invented and used it in Washington and Oregon and named it a "Dead Stick Treasure Hunt." For there, in the woods, every dead branch or twig soon becomes covered with a great variety of fungi, lichens, and mosses. Silver gray, ruby red, soft green, russet brown, pale gold, or jet black—all are utterly exquisite in their dainty, fragile forms. The game is to scatter through the woods and hunt for a stick bearing the loveliest treasures, discarding each as you find a better one. You go home loaded with treasure and infinitely richer because you have become aware of lavish beauty hitherto completely overlooked. A fallen tree trunk in the same area can yield hours of delight.

Out of my treasure store of happy adventures I have picked a mere handful to share with you in the hope you will catch the spirit and be moved to use the same method of discovering for yourself, every sense alert, the surprises, the wonder, the beauty that surround you.

"The world is so full of a number of things."

Patterns for Publicity in Radio

(Continued from page 649)

posal. Cut your pattern to fit your cloth. The final criterion must be what kind of thing you can do best considering what you have to work with. Place and keep your standards high, keep your audience and your purpose in mind, know your own limitations and the limitations of the station over which you will broadcast, and whatever program you do, *make it good.*

A Schoolyard Sanctuary

(Continued from page 627)

The city of Joliet, Illinois, has for many years had a forester on its school staff whose responsibility has been the conducting of field trips and other outdoor educational programs in the parks and woodlands of the city. Class groups are often taken afield by the forester as a part of their regular science instruction.

Children's Activities Museums are another important feature of the nature program for school children. This project is not new, but just before the war it received added impetus, partly through the efforts of school and recreation groups. These museums are activity centers rather than mere showplaces for displays. Children's museums have generally provided three types of services: First, they have made available visual materials for the use of groups in the museums or for loan to classrooms, clubs, or even individuals. Second, the children's museums have provided workshops in which young people might develop various science and craft hobbies. The San Francisco Junior Museum administered by the Municipal Recreation Department has been a beehive of activity for nature hobbyists, model aircraft builders, and others of like interests. Third, many of the children's museums have been the centers from which field trips of various kinds might emanate, with leadership provided through the museum staff. In the postwar period cities might well give more consideration to activity museums where individuals might pursue their hobbies with the help of competent leadership.

Among cities with outstanding children's museums maintained by public school funds are St. Louis, Missouri, and Reading, Pennsylvania. Cities with children's museums administered and maintained by municipal recreation departments include San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Palo Alto, California. The great majority of other children's museums are administered by separate museum boards or as a part of the general natural history museum program.

Some of the trailside museums developed in parks near large centers of population have served in some of the capacities mentioned. This statement is notably true in Cincinnati, Ohio, where regular children's groups participate in the hobby club activities of the museum, and where school services and children's field trips are a part of the activities of the museum's staff.

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The National Audubon Society has maintained near Greenwich, Connecticut, a sanctuary designed to serve as a demonstration of a special type of area and facility for school use. A small museum and nature trails are maintained and a naturalist employed in an area set aside entirely for outdoor education purposes. School groups are brought to the area on a regular schedule, and the naturalist takes over instruction in the field.

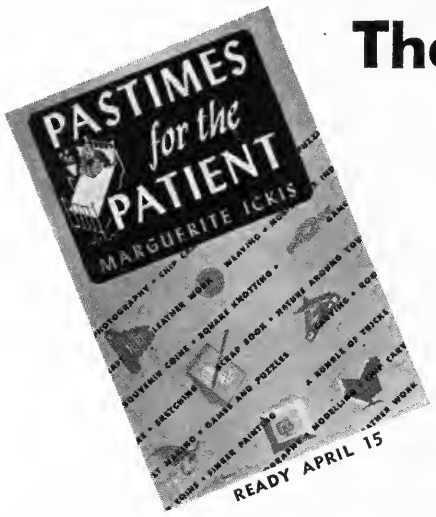
Where sanctuaries, trailside museums and nature trails, naturalists, or children's museums are available, schools have been quick to avail themselves of the services provided. Where schools themselves cannot provide outdoor laboratories and services, the municipal recreation agencies may here render a service to the schools, in addition to carrying on their regular nature programs for the general public. Public parks, zoos, botanic gardens, wildlife preserves, bird sanctuaries, and community forests are only a few of the types of facilities owned by cities that might well render distinctive service in years to come.

"Monument Enough"

(Continued from page 657)

although millions of lovers of the outdoors, through organizations to which they belong, are more and more urging that memorials of World War II be living ones.

To this we should like to add our voice. Whether it be park or forest, wildlife sanctuary or memorial avenue, we believe that those who have given all that was in their power to give would say that it were "monument enough." — From *Nature Magazine,* December 1944.



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By **MARGUERITE ICKIS**

No recreation leader can afford to be without this book of precious ideas! The well known author has included the most interesting and unusual pastimes for the laid-up or convalescent probably ever gathered together in one book. Brigadier General De Voe, Commanding Officer of Halloran General Hospital, states in his foreword: "The techniques developed by the author make each suggestion both a challenge and a temptation."

Here are ideas and directions for a dozen or more activities of a practical, constructive and, if desired, even a remunerative nature. The crafts are well selected and exceedingly varied—ranging all the way from chip carving to fly making. Lively and practical chapters suggest such hobbies as "Sketching from Scratch," "Music Appreciation," "Nature from Your Window," and many others. For undiluted entertainment there are three chapters of games, puzzles and magic. The drawings are gay and charming, as well as clearly instructive. An intriguing book. **Illustrated, $3.00**

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Wisconsin's Ranger Mac

(Continued from page 651)

self through the fields, sometimes aided by a younger brother.

When Mac presented a program on bird and animal tracks recently, he asked his listeners to see how many trails they could identify from his descriptions. The replies are still coming in, but at last count nearly a thousand letters had been received, more than half of them signed by a dozen or more children.

Among the replies was one from the fifth grade of the Janesville, Wisconsin, School for the Blind. It was written in Braille, with penciled translations by Jean Miller, "secretary." The sightless children had identified all of the tracks.

McNeel's radio work began as a hobby, and has remained one for ten years. His 4-H Club work is still the occupation for which he is paid, and in it he travels the state encouraging conservation and nature studies. The research and writing essential to production of the program is done on Sunday, Mac's "day off." He takes no time from his regular job except the half-hour for his Monday morning broadcast.

Much in demand as a school lecturer, the nature enthusiast reports that children who have heard him regularly on the air are always disappointed to see a business-like man in a dignified business suit.

"I guess they expect to see me wearing a wide-brimmed hat, boots, and breeches," Mac commented. "As a matter of fact, I do dress that way when we go out planting trees or are doing outdoor work, but I've always felt it would be out of place on the speaker's platform."

Mac closes all of his broadcasts and public lectures with the same heartwarming thought, an old Indian farewell which he accompanies with sign language when on the lecture platform:

"May the Great Spirit put sunshine in your heart, today and forevermore, *heap much!"*

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It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 659)

sugar production. Perhaps rationing will bring it back. Ideal weather is thawing days and freezing nights. Fuel should be collected ahead of time. The boiling pan should be large and shallow. *Farmer's Bulletin* 1366, U. S. Department of Agriculture, will be a big help.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Pastimes for the Patient

By Marguerite Ickis. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York 18. $3.00.

THIS EXCEEDINGLY timely book will find a responsive audience at just this time when community groups are realizing the problem they are facing in providing returned servicemen who are temporarily disabled with enjoyable activities for the hours they must spend indoors.

Pastimes for the Patient, with its suggestions for crafts, hobbies, games, puzzles, and many other recreation activities, is a family book, too—full of suggestions not only for members of the family who may be ill or convalescing, but for the entire family in its free time.

There is a wide field of service for this book.

Modern Dance

By Ruth Radir. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York 18. $2.50.

DANCE AS A MEANS of communicating ideas and feelings by groups is the subject of this book designed as a text for teachers of the dance in high schools and colleges. Part I, in such chapters as "Modern Dance in Relation to Our Culture" and "Dance as Education," is concerned primarily with the historical background and philosophical implications of the "modern" dance. The second part of the book deals chiefly with techniques and their applications.

School's Out

By Clara Lambert. Harper and Brothers, New York. $2.50.

"IT IS THE SCHOOL-AGE CHILD, the child between the ages of five and fourteen, who is the 'forgotten child,'" says Clara Lambert. *School's Out* is the record of achievement in helping this age solve the problems of its "tragic era." A discussion of program, of materials, and methods used in play schools; a chapter on community planning for play schools; a section on home-school relations, are some of the factors that will make the book valuable reading for everyone who has to deal with children in this topsy-turvy world.

Dramatic Director's Handbook

Ernest Bavely, Editor. National Thespian Society, College Hill Station, Cincinnati 24, Ohio. $1.50.

THE REVISED EDITION of the *Dramatic Director's Handbook* is divided into three parts. Part I is a course on "How to Teach High School Dramatics" by Katharine A. Ommanney. Part II represents the result of a study by a group of experienced drama leaders on the organization and management of a drama club. Part III contains suggestions on play production from selecting the play to publicizing the performance. Though designed primarily for the use of high schools, the booklet has much valuable information for any drama leader.

Roller Skating

By Bob Martin. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York 18. $1.25.

"ROLLER SKATING has grown up!" and this is a book addressed to adult devotees of an adult sport. The author has limited his subject to "instruction in the primary phases of roller skating," in which there are, apparently, six steps, learning to skate correctly, learning the fundamentals which lead to skate dancing, primary figure skating, fundamentals of free style skating, basic speed skating. Graphic line drawings and charts are used to illustrate the text.

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By Ruth Strang, Alice Checkovitz, Christine Gilbert, Margaret Scoggin. The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. $1.25.

SCHOOLMEN IN RECENT YEARS have been increasingly concerned to help the school child who reads slowly and poorly. More than five years ago a short bibliography for retarded readers of high school age was prepared at Teachers College, Columbia University, and enthusiastically received upon its publication. The present volume aims to carry forward the values of the first bibliography, to suggest suitable reading material for boys and girls who have adequate mental ability but who find it difficult to keep up with their grades in high school because they have not learned to read easily and quickly. The list of books is broken down into subject classifications and the level of difficulty is indicated for each volume.

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Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Safety Education, February 1945
Tough But Safe, Vaughn S. Blanchard

Scholastic Coach, January 1945
Living War Memorials (Special Issue)

Hygeia, February 1945
Physical Fitness in War and Peace, Frank S. Lloyd

Journal of Health and Physical Education, January 1945
Interpreting Our Program to the Public, a Committee Report
Children Consider the Dance Program, Delia P. Hussey
Physical Education for Living, C. H. McCloy
Some Contributions of Physical Education to An Educated Life, D. Oberteuffer

The Camping Magazine, January 1945
Camping Around the Year, Genevieve Clayton, Louise Fargher, Marguerite Norris Davis
An All-Weather Canoe Shed, Barbara Ellen Joy

Kansas Government Journal, November 1944
War Memorials

Coronet, February 1945
Legacy to the Living, Edith M. Stern

Beach and Pool, January 1945
Artificial Respiration Methods Tested, Alice L. O'Connell
Aquatic Woman Power
Post-War Swimming Pool Survey, Ernie Stengel

Parks and Recreation, January-February 1945
The Maintenance Mart
Conservation Versus Vandalism, Roberts Mann
Major Park Projects Planned for Rockford, Earl F. Elliot

PAMPHLETS

Review of Cycling, 2nd Annual, 1945
Nordquist Publishing Co., East Hartford, Conn.

Coastline Plans and Action
(For the development of the Los Angeles metropolitan coastline) Published by the Haynes Foundation, Los Angeles

Jewish Community Center
Jewish Community Center, San Diego, Calif.

Annual Report, Municipal Athletic Association
Department of Municipal Recreation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Planning for American Youth
An Education Program for Youth of Secondary School Age, National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Price 25 cents

Goals for Children and Youth in the Transition from War to Peace
U. S. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau, Children in Wartime, No. 5, Bureau Publication 306, Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. Price 5 cents

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